DAILY REPORT

Asia & Pacific

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JAN 1 U 1978

FBIS-APA-78-2 Wednesday 4 January 1978 Vol IV No 2

DAILY REPORT



COMPLETE

ASIA & PACIFIC

FROM BEST AVAILABLE GUYT

Available for Distribution From NTIS

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RESHUFFLE OF KUOMINTANG STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTED

OWO40959Y Taipei CNA in English 0941 GMT 4 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Taipei, Jan 4 (CNA) -- The ruling Kuomintang's Central Standing Committee Wednesday announced a top-level reshuffle affecting six posts in the party's central and provincial committees. Premier Chiang Ching-kuo, in his capacity as chairman of the KMT, said the shakeup is designed to strengthen the party's functions and unity. The new lineup is:

- --Chiu Chuang-huan, director of the Department of Social Affairs, was promoted to deputy secretary-general of the Central Committee. Chiu is succeeded by Shen Chih-yueh, currently head of the Bureau of Investigation.
- -- Chen Chi-lu was relieved of his post as deputy secretary-general of the Central Committee and will become a minister without portfolio.
- --Li Huan, director of the Department of Organization Affairs, has resigned and is succeeded by Chao Tze-chi, who will continue to hold the title of secretary-general of the Policy Coordination Committee on a temporary basis.
- --Wang Wei-nung, the party's head of provincial committee, was relieved for new assignment. Hispost is filled by Pan Chen-chiu, chairman of the National Youth Commission, on an acting basis.
- --Ting Mou-shih, who was wearing two hats as director-general of the Government Information Office and director of the Department of Culture and Information, has resigned from his party post. His successor is Chu Sung-chiu, former publisher of the CENTRAL DAILY NEWS.
- -- Lin Ching-chiang was stripped of his post as director of the Department of Overseas Affairs for new assignment. His deputy, Tseng Kuang-shun, succeeds him in an acting capacity.

Speaking at a meeting of the Central Standing Committee at which the shakeup was approved, Chairman Chiang called for promotion of understanding among KMT members. "We must narrow the gap of differences in ideas and opinions between the top and low levels in the party so as to make the party's functions more effective," Chiang declared. He said the KMT members have to step up efforts to help the people settle their problems, thereby the party can win more support from the people. "The Kuomintang is an open party and we welcome more people to join us in carrying out our revolutionary missions," Chiang said.

BRIEFS

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH RATE--Taipei, Dec 31--The Republic of China's industrial growth rate in 1977 was 11.2 percent--better than expected--due to fast recovery in the last quarter, according to William Wei, director of the Industrial Development Bureau. Wei said Saturday the rate is still 1.8 percentage points below target. He noted that the international economic recovery was slow in the first half of 1977, and two big typhoons that swept Taiwan during the summer were the main reasons for the slow growth in the first three quarters of 1977. "But a fast recovery in the fourth quarter greatly made up the previous loss," he added. Wei said that if the industries keep on the good performance as they did in last October-December, their growth rate would exceed 15.5 percent in 1978. [Text] [Taipei CNA in English 1037 GMT 31 Dec 77 OW]

SONODA, SOVIET AMBASSADOR CONFER 30 DEC

OW310909Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0812 GMT 31 Dec 77 OW

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Dec 31 KYODO--Foreign Minister Sunac Sonoda conferred again with Soviet Ambassador Dmitriy S. Folyanskiy Friday on the consultation Sonoda will have with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey comyko in Moscow starting January 9.

Sonoda and Polyanskiy also met December 21 at a restaurant in Tokyo with the participation of Japanese business leaders for an unofficial exchange of opinions.

What the two talked about Friday was not disclosed.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN AID--Tokyo, Dec 30--appropriations for grants-in-aid in the Foreign Ministry's overseas economic cooperation funds in the fiscal 1978 budget decided by the government Thursday totaled 39,000 million yen, more than double the previous fiscal year's figure. The ministry's total budget appropriations stood at 204,586 million yen, up 15.2 percent over the previous fiscal year. The economic cooperation expenditures totaled 121,597 million yen an increase of 21.9 percent. The combined total for overseas economic cooperation expenditures including amounts allotted to other ministries stood at 263,385 million yen up 22.1 percent over the preceding fiscal year. This will raise the official percentage of development aid in the Gross National Product to 0.3 percent from 0.28 percent in the original fiscal 1977 budget. About 250 million yen will be spent to bolster guarding operations and to hire 68 foreign guards at overseas establishments and 108 million yen will be used to build Japanese schools in Abu Dhabi, Vienna, Warsaw, Chicago and Perth, Australia. [Tokyo KYODO in English 0630 GMT 30 Dec 77 OW]

NOVEMBER ACCOUNT, TRADE SURPLUS .- Tokyo, Dec 27 -- Japan had a current -account surplus of more than 1 billion dollars in November for the third straight month, the government announced Tuesday. Revised figures released by the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan showed the balance on current account -- goods and services trade plus unilateral monetary transfers -- was 277.9 billion yen (1,134 million dollars) in the black before allowing for seasonal variations compared with October's 346.9 billion yen (1.356 million dollar) surplus. The trade balance recorded a 395.8 billion yen (1,615 million dollar) surplus compared with a 476.1 billion yen (1,861 million dollar) surplus in October. Exports rose 3 percent over a year before to 1,672.8 billion yen (6,826 million dollars) while imports fell 13 percent to 1,277 billion yen (5,211 million dollars). The balance of invisible trade such as freight, insurance and tourism and that of transfers such as remittances produced a combined 117.9 billion yen (481 million dollar) deficit compared with a 129.2 billion yen (505 million dollar) deficit in October. The long-term capital balance improved to a 75.2 billion yen (307 million dollar) deficit from a 157.9 billion yen (617 million dollar) deficit. The overall balance of payments was 447.7 billion yen (1.827 million dollars) in surplus compared with October's 82.9 billion yen (324 million dollar) black figure. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 0552 CMT 27 Dec 77 OW]

NODONG SINMUN ON KIM'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

SK030415Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2320 GMI 2 Jan 78 SK

[NODONG SINMUN 3 January editorial: "Let Us Brighten the First Year of the New Prospective Plan with Great Victory, Upholding the Respected and Beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year Message"]

[Text] Sending off the year of 1977 which was festooned with felicitous events and brilliant victories, we have entered 1978, a hopeful year in which we mark the first step in the fulfillment of the magnificent second 7-year plan. Cherishing the great pride and honor of having occupied the heights of socialism and having entered the new road of revolutionary march, all party members and working people throughout the country extend the utmost glory and infinite reverence to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song-who has constantly led revolution and construction to victory and who has provided infinite happiness and joy to our people--and respectfully wish the great leader longevity.

In his New Year message delivered on the first morning of 1978, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song summed up the great successes attained last year by our people on all fronts of socialist construction through upholding the banner of the three revolutions, and elucidated the militant tasks assigned our party and people this year. The great leaders! New Year message is a militant platform for new progress in further consolidating our revolutionary base, in successfully occupying the heights of the second 7-year plan and in expediting the complete victory of socialism under the banner of the three revolutions of ideology, technology and culture and the banner of self-reliance.

The New Year message which elucidated the rewarding struggle tasks for the country's prosperity and the people's happiness is an encouraging guideline which bestows greater courage and confidence on all party members and people, leading them toward greater victory and heroic exploits. Last year was a significant one, marking great progress in our people's political life and our revolution's development. Last year our people successfully completed the historic election of deputies to the Sixth SPA and held in high esteem Comrade kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, as president of the republic. Thus they clearly displayed their loyalty in eternally holding the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem and vigorously demonstrated our people's invincible might, rallied as firmly as iron around the great leader.

Under the wise guidalize of the great leader our people attained great victory in fulfilling last years' tasks, the year of readjustment, and thus established another brilliant milestone on the road leading to socialism and communism. In his New Year message the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught as follows: "The year 1977 was a proud one during which brilliant successes were attained in all fronts of socialist construction. Last year our people brilliantly completed the vast tasks of socialist construction by vigorously carrying out struggle, while cherishing burning loyalty to the party and revolution."

One of the great successes attained last year in socialist construction was first of all the great progress in the transportation and extractive industry sectors where great efforts were concentrated. Upholding the great leaders' call, last year our gallant transportation workers effected a new turning point by vigorously carrying out the 200-day transportation revolution battle, thus smoothly meeting transportation demands in all fields of the people's economy.

collieries and mines signally expanded production of coal and minerals by firmly giving priority to the extractive and processing industries in accordance with party policy, thus contributing to expanded production in plants and enterprises. In addition,

all other industries, including the machine, electric power and chemical industries, innovated and actively contributed to the acceleration of socialist construction.

Last year the agricultural front also attained a remarkable success. Our agricultural working people and all people unanimously mobilized their efforts to surmount unpredictable, abnormal weather, including severe drought, thereby successfully attaining the height of 8.5 million tons of grain. They also innovated in carrying out the five-point nature- remolding program.

All these brilliant successes clearly demonstrate not only the correctness and invincible vitality of our party's agricultural policy but also the burning loyalty and boundless might of our people who implement, without fail, the militant tasks elucidated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Through last year's struggle we have completely solved the problems which appeared momentarily in some economic sectors during the 6-year plan. Thus we further consolidated the foundation for rapid progress toward new and loftier heights. Based on this foundation, our party and people have firm confidence in embarking on the second 7-year plan, a new magnificent blueprint for socialist construction.

All successes attained by our people last year in revolution and construction are brilliant fruitions of the excellent and tested leadership and energetic activity of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who elucidates the correct struggle policy out of a deep insight into present realities and socialist construction and who constantly leads our people to victory with superior revolutionary leadership.

Defining last year as one of readjustment, the respected and beloved leader clearly elucidated the readjustment year's tasks and implementation methods, vigorously organizing and mobilizing the entire party and people to struggle for the realization of these tasks. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who vigorously advances the overall work of socialist construction while firmly grasping its cardinal tasks, convened the party Central Committee plenum and many other important meetings to establish revolutionary measures for the timely and rapid development of our people's economy, causing great innovations on the transportation front and in the extractive industry by motivating the working people to concentrate greater efforts on these fields in particular.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song has helped us to smoothly meet increasing demand for electricity, to place production on the right track and to fully mobilize and utilize available potential by improving guidance of the economy and management of enterprises in all sectors and units of the people's economy and by further strengthening struggles for increased production and economization. By setting forth a revolutionary policy on underground water to prevent damage from the drought caused by the cold front, which had become more threatening, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who consistently designated the agricultural sector as the major offensive front last year, wisely guided us to implement this policy and conduct farming in a sceintific and technical manner so as to thoroughly meet chuche method requirements. He guided the entire party, people and army to assist the rural areas more vigorously than ever.

The respected and beloved leader, who has always found himself among the people and who has advanced all work by organizing and mobilizing their might, helped mark continuous innovations and advances last year by touring many plants, rural areas and collieries from the year's beginning to tenderly guide workers, solve difficult problems and encourage party members and workers to display their revolutionary zeal, creativeness and activism.

The major achievements attained in our revolution and construction last year are manifested in the close linkage between the party and economic work and in the implementation of the three revolutions with mass participation. More active implementation of economic work by party organizations in all sectors and units and deepened motivation to win the red flag of the three revolutions meant that last year the party's economic policy was more correctly implemented and the people's ideological and spiritual aspect was changed. Indeed we owe successful occupation of the height of 8.5 million tons of grain and continuous advance in production and construction last year—under circumstances in which unfavorable natural conditions continued and economic fluctuation was rampant worldwide—to the great leader comrade Kim Il—song's wise guidance.

Through the revolutionary struggle our people have strong faith in victory so long as we advance according to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's teachings and have an ability to tide over whatever difficulties and bitter trials we might encounter. Thus we are strongly united around the great leader. This is a most precious, incomparable achievement, and a firm guarantee for more magnificent advancement.

Last year international solidarity with our revolution became stronger thanks to the independent foreign policy and active foreign activity of the government of the republic.

Dawning on a fruitful new year, our party and people are faced with the heavy yet honorable task of brilliantly carrying out the second 7-year plan as the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song clarified in his New Year message. The respected and beloved great leader taught in that New Year's message: The new year 1978 is the first one of the second 7-year plan, and we are going into the new battle today. Successful implementation of the new prospective plan depends greatly on how we carry out the battle this year. The second 7-year plan is a magnificent program of economic construction for further increasing the economic power of the country and hastening the complete victory of socialism and communism.

Since the great leader illuminated for us the creative chuche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the people's economy and the new prospective plan which is formed on the basis of these principles, our party and people are now able to accelerate the advance toward socialism and communism with clear guidelines. This year is the first one in the second 7-year plan. How we carry out the battle in the future is of real significance in victoriously accomplishing the new prospective plan. All working people, including the heroic working class and cooperative farm workers, should make revolutionary innovations on all socialist construction fronts, renewing their resolution, exercizing very high revolutionary enthusiasm and a courageous battle spirit and unanimously participating in the responsible battle.

In his New Year message the respected and beloved leader suggested that more efforts be concentrated on the extractive industry this year, saying that the extractive industry is vital to implementing the second 7-year plan. This is a most just policy put forth by the great leader on the basis of his insight into the new prospective plan's demands, the current situation and the future of national economic development. All functionaries and working people should vigorously wage the struggle to guarantee success in the extractive industry by implementing the second 7-year plan, thereby upholding the great leader comrade Kim Il-song's policy.

Deeply bearing in mind that they hold the key to successful implementation of the new prospective plan, functionaries and working people in the mining industry should boldly innovate for socialist construction victory on all fronts by further reorganizing and enlarging collieries and mines so as to decisively enhance productivity.

Maintaining the work attitude they assumed and the militant records they registered last year, transport workers should smoothly meet increasing demand this year by thoroughly implementing the policy of the three major transport methods—concentrated, combined and containerized.

The working class of the machine industry—a major element in the new prospective planshould vigorously help the extractive industry, the transport sector and other national economic domains to march forward by producing more machines and facilities and increasing production speed. At the same time functionaries and workers in other industrial sectors should unfailingly finish tasks assigned to them this year by guaranteeing full operation of existing facilities so as to maximize production capacity.

Under the continuing severe impact of the cold front, we should exert great efforts in agriculture this year, too. We should be thorough in farming preparations and continue to increase irrigated field acreage by conserving every drop of water, digging wells extensively and utilizing scientific technology in farming according to the chuche-based farming method in order to have a bumper crop again this year.

Clearly delineating the direction and methods for successful implementation of the new prospective plan and this year's militant task, the respected and beloved leader taught in his New Year speech that we should above all uphold the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technical and cultural. We can victoriously implement this year's huge militant tasks only if we encourage workers with a loftier revolutionary zeal to vigorously fan the flames of the three revolutions, if we rapidly improve cultural standards and if we accelerate technical innovation work. We should make new progress on all socialist construction fronts and further strengthen the country's political and military might by vigorously accelerating ideological remolding, mass technical innovation and construction of socialist culture through vigorous implementation of the movement to win the red fla, of the three revolutions.

"Let us further display the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance." This is the militant slogan our party advanced for the second 7-year plan's successful implementation. The great leader taught in his New Year message: All party members and workers should independently solve difficult and complicated problems which they will face in socialist construction and bravely overcome all trials and difficulties which they will encounter in the future by firmly arming themselves with our party's chuche ideology and by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

The second 7-year plan-a militant one with unprecedentedly challenging goals and speed-demands that functionaries and workers wage an intensified struggle by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance more vigorously than ever before. All functionaries and workers should also more vigorously wave the revolutionary banner which has always led our people to heroic struggles and to brilliant victory on all battlefields throughout the country. We should launch a new struggle with an attitude of implementing the new prospective plan with our own might, techniques and resources. We should independently solve difficult and complicated problems which we encounter in socialist construction. We should produce and build more and more quickly with available labor manpower and assets by actively mobilizing potential everywhere and fanning the flames of increased production and economization struggles.

It is important that the more weighty tasks we are assigned in revolution, the more we strengthen the people's government—a powerful weapon for the construction of socialism and communism—and enhance its function and role variously. All agencies and functionaries of the people's government should successfully accomplish the mission of being truly faithful servants of the people and vigorously push ahead with socialist construction by brilliantly performing the glorious tasks, put forth by the great leader at the first session of the Sixth SPA, of further strengthening the people's government.

The guidance functionaires, political and ideological awareness, work methods and organizational skill will greatly influence our new militant achievements. Guidance functionaries of party, government and economic agencies should master their work more thoroughly than ever with a lofty awareness of being masters and should organize and implement all work in a responsible manner. They should thoroughly oppose bureaucratism, give priority to political work, vigorously arouse the masses! revolutionary zeal and carry out economic organizational work and management of enterprises in a scientific and rational manner. All functionaries should hold the spirit of absolutely, unconditionally and thoroughly implementing the militant missions assigned by the party without a moment's delay. They should brilliantly accomplish to the end the revolutionary tasks assigned them by displaying the spirit of matchless devotion and creativeness.

Today when our revolution and construction have entered a new stage of progress, the mission and responsibility assigned party organizations and three revolutions teams are really great and weighty. Party organizations should further advance the work of closely studying the great leader's programmatic speech delivered at the first session of the Sixth SPA and his New Year speech. They should help all functionaries and workers fully display their might, wisdom and energy in a courageous struggle to accomplish this year's militant tasks by familiarizing themselves with the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim II-song's farsighted plan and his strategic and militant policy, which are reflected in the new prospective plan and in the shining blueprint for this year's battle.

Our struggle goal is clear. The future of our party and people is bright and shining. All party members and workers should thoroughly reject the spirit of having the slightest conceit or slackness. They should always work, study and live in a revolutionary manner. They should continuously advance and innovate.

Let us all crown the new prospective plan's first year with great victory by firmly uniting around the respected and beloved leader and abiding by his New Year address!

REUNIFICATION COMMITTEE CONDEMNS ROK SENTENCINGS

S1030225Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 2 Jan 78 SK

["Information No 5 of the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland"]

[Text] The South Korean puppets, despite the unanimous cry from within and without denouncing the suppression of human rights, still carry out their oppression. According to foreign news reports on 26 December 1977 the pak Chong-hui puppet clique committed the criminal act of bringing to trial Yang Song-u, the writer of "Notebook of a Slave," sentencing him to 3 years' imprisonment and 3 years' suspension of rights under the pretext of violation of the notorious emergency decrees.

On the same day the South Korean fascist clique committed the criminal act of unfairly sentencing two Korean theological students, detained for alleged involvement in a student demonstration, to 5 years' imprisonment each on the pretext that they had posted slogans demanding democratization of society and release of detainees from prison.

Yang Song-u and the two Korean theological students who were unfairly sentenced are indeed patriotic intellectuals who rose to expose and denounce the terrible reality of South Korean society where people groan under oppression, disgrace and all sorts of fascist terror. The criminal act of the South Korean rulers to inflict punishment on these patriots is an intolerable violation of the principle of great national unity and fatherland reunification, a vicious challenge to the South Korean people who are demanding democratization of society and an intolerable insult to the world's progressive people who oppose the suppression of human rights in South Korea.

This atrocity of the South Korean puppets clearly proves that their recent racket about relasing some detainees was nothing but a deceptive move to divert internal and external public opinion. Releasing some detainees while continuing to arrest and detain people is nothing but foolish deception.

As long as they use such dirty duplicity, the South Korean rulers will never escape their current ruinous situation where they have been completely isolated and rejected within and without. The viciou, scheme of the puppets will arouse further strong rejection and denunciation at home and abroad and will only expedite their ruin.

The Pak Chong-hui puppet clique must immediately relinquish oppression and unconditionally and immediately release all political prisoners, including Yang Song-u and the two college students. It must also withdraw the fascist yusin ruling as soon as possible.

2 January 1978, Pyongyang

KCNA CITES WORLD SUPPORT FOR KOREA RESOLUTION

OW3017 Y Pyongyang NCNA in English 1005 GMT 30 Dec 77 OW

[Text] Pyongyang December 30 (KCNA)--Voices demanding the immediate implementation of the resolution on the Korean question adopted at the 30th UN General Assembly session rang out loudly at the 32d UN General Assembly session which closed recently.

Two years have bassed since the adoption of the resolution "Creation of Favourable Conditions for Converting the Armistice Into a Durable Peace in Korea and Accelerating the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea." But none of the provisions of the resolution has been translated into practice. Therefore, delegates of many countries at the 32d UN General Assembly session denounced the manoeuvres to perpetuate the division of Korea and strongly demanded that the resolution on the Korean question which was adopted at the 30th UN General Assembly be implemented at an early date.

They stressed that the reunification of Korea should be realized by the Korean people themselves free from any outside interference and expressed firm support to and solidarity with the just struggle of our people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Huang Hua, foreign minister of the People's Republic of China, said: We firmly support the just struggle of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of a the country. The "UN Command" must be disbanded. The U.S. troops must withdraw from South Korea immediately and totally, taking along their equipment. The Korean question must be solved by the Korean people themselves without any outside interference. Any act delaying and obstructing the reunification of Korea, trying to perpetuate her division and create "two Koreas", is contrary to the desire of the entire Korean people and cannot be tolerated. The resolution for accelerating the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea which was adopted at the 30th UN General General Assembly session must be faithfully carried out.

Soviet Foreign Minister A. Gromyko said that the problem of the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea had been long discussed and stressed that the United Nations should play its role in this respect.

The Romanian foreign minister stressed that the constructive proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea constitute a solid basis in realising the ardent desire of the Korean people and achieving the peaceful, independent and democratic reunification of Korea.

The federal secretary for foreign affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expressed full support to the policy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. He said: Yugoslavia calls for the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea, the dismantling of foreign military bases there and the conclusion of a peace agreement which will create conditions for realizing the national object of the Korean people—the peaceful reunification of the country. We support more strongly the efforts of the United Nations for this and demand that the manoeuvres to keep Korea divided permanently into "two Koreas" be checked.

Ieng Sary, deputy prime minister of the Government of Democratic Cambodia in charge of foreign affairs, expressed full support to the stand on the reunification of Korea and proposals for its realization set forth by President Kim Il-song, the great leader.

The Malagasy foreign minister pointed to the deployment of huge armed forces of aggression in South Korea. For the acceleration of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, the resolution on the Korean question adopted at the 30th UN General Assembly session and the principles of the north-south joint statement published on July 4, 1972, must be fulfilled.

The Togolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation said: The reunification of Korea can be achieved only when foreign troops are withdrawn from South Korea.

The Burundi foreign minister stressed that the United Nations should make more persistent efforts to create conditions helpful to the reunification of Korea.

Delegates of many other countries also demanded the implementation of the UN resolution on the Korean question.

During the UN General Assembly session similar voices rang out loudly outside the United Nations. The Iao Committee for Support of the Korean People's Struggle for National Reunification, the Bangladesh Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification, the Association for Yemen-Korea Friendship and for Supporting Korea's Reunification and many other solidarity organisations, the trade unions international of workers in the metal industry, the Bureau of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the Secretariat of the International Union of Students and other international organisations made public statements, letters of protest and resolutions.

The statements, letters of protest and resolutions unanimously rejected the "two Koreas" plot of the splittists within and without and resolutely demanded the implementation of the resolution of the 30th UN General Assembly session on the Korean question and the shipment of nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Political and public circles of Japan, Burma, India and other Asian countries, many European countries including France, Belgium, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland and African countries struggled in various forms in demand of the fulfilment of the resolution of the UN General Assembly.

NODONG SINMUN DISCUSSES NORTH-SOUTH CONFEDERATION

SK280425Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0403 GMT 28 Dec 77 SK

[Text] Pyongyang December 28 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN carried recently an article under the title "Close Unity of Our Nation as One Is Primary Requisite to Country's Reunification". It says:

The policy of national unity put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song represents our patriotic stand for realizing the desire of the people and fulfilling the national task by reunifying the country. The unity of the nation should be achieved first to accelerate the reunification of the country.

The split of the nation is, in fact, the factor deepening misunderstanding and distrust and fostering hostile consciousness between the north and the south and it makes even the commonness established through a long history disappear gradually. Under the condition in which there are different social and political systems in the north and the south and there live people with different ideas and religious beliefs, the unity of the nation should come first and the unity in system and the unity in ideology and religion next.

As we are one nation and the same compatriots, we can and should realise national unity and reunification, transcending the system and religion, idea and ideal, in realizing the common cause and the same desire. Only when national unity is achieved first can the unity in system and unity in ideology and religion be realized early and the complete reunification of the country be brought about. Saying that the institution of a north-south confederation is the most reasonable way for achieving national unity, the article goes on:

To institute the north-south confederation in our country means to unite ir a confederation the two parts of the temporarily divided homogeneous nation which lived through a long history with the same language, the same custom and the same culture. This is to solve in a uniform way, through the supreme national congress, problems for the national interests and development, leaving the two social and political systems existing in North and South Korea as they are for the time being, and gradually achieve complete reunification.

The north-south confederation would, first of all, dispel the long accumulated misunderstanding and distrust and create an atmosphere of mutual trust and faith by realising contact and negotiation, national bond and cooperation between the north and the south. The north-south confederation would also help realize economic and cultural relations and cooperation and thus create actual conditions for national unity. And if the north-south confederation is instituted, the north and the south would be able to take practical measures in the military field, too, for removing the military confrontation and tension by promising each other not to resort to arms against the other side and discontinuing arms reinforcement and the arms race. And in the external relations, too, the north and the south would act together, enter the United Nations and other international organisations and take a concerted action as one state under the single nomenclature of the Confederal Republic of Koryo to defend the national interests and further raise the international authority of the nation.

The article continues: The realisation of the five-point policy of national reunification will mark an epochal turning-point in dispelling misunderstanding and distrust between the north and the south, achieving mutual understanding and trust, bond and cooperation and jointly defending the country with the united strength of the nation.

The five-point policy of national reunification is: to remove military confrontation and lessen tensions between the north and the south, to realize many-sided cooperation and interchange between the north and the south, to convene a great national congress comprising representatives of people of all strata, political parties and social organizations from the north and the south, to institute a north-south confederation under the single nomenclature of the Confederal Republic of Koryo, and to enter the U.N. under the single nomenclature-Confederal Republic of Koryo.

It is entirely owing to the nation-splitting manoeuvres of the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique that our country has not yet been reunified and security of the nation is constantly menaced. They intentionally exaggerate the difference in system and difference in ideology and religion, deliberately turning their faces away from the essential commonness of our nation, argue that the two parts "cannot be blended together" and national unity is "impossible" for the "lack of community of ideal, goal and interests" and ceaselessly commit provocations against us and repress more brutally the South Korean patriotic forces desiring reunification, seeking to aggravate national antagonism and confrontation.

To realize the policy of national unity advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song-this is the only road of reunification, the road of complete independence, declares the article in conclusion.

NODONG SIMMUN ON PAK'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

OW031103Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT 3 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang January 3 (KCNA) -- The "New Year speech" of Pak Chong-hui the puppet revealed his intention to persistently intensify this year, too, the suppression of people, war manoeuvres and the plot to perpetuate the national split in an attempt to bridge over the worsening crisis of his "regime".

Commenting on the "New Year speech" of Pak Chong-hui the puppet, NODONG SINMUN today says: If there is anything new in the puppet's piffle, it is that the rascal used more shamelessly flowery words to whitewash his crimes and made more empty promises to save himself from condemnation and isolation within and without. Pak Chong-hui the traitor tried hard to cover up his barbarous rule and its grave consequences and deceive the people, reversing black and white and distorting facts to make it appear as if there were any "stability" and "progress" in South Korea.

The only change in South Korea, if any, is that the relations between the people of broad strata and the puppet ruling circles have been extremely aggravated, the economic subjugation and bankruptcy become more pronounced, the hardships of the people's life grown worse and confusion within the ruling circules increased, the commentary points out, and continues:

The Pak Chong-hui clique, faced with the crisis in the grave political and economic confusion, is making desperate efforts to find a wage out in stepping up the suppression of the people and pursuing the policy of military gamble.

The puppet's prattling about an "unexpected emergency" betrays his design to militarize the economy, introduce more weapons of destruction and drive out young and middle-aged people of South Korea as ever to the criminal war manoeuvres. As for his loud talk about the "yusin view of value", it means that he will suppress at the point of the bayonet all elements standing in the way of his plot to remain in power indefinitely and the people should blindly obey the club discipline imposed upon them by the puppet.

The criminal nature of Pak Chong-hui was more clearly disclosed when he, shamelessly referring to the question of reunification, claimed that "national strength should be built up" for "competition" with us. The puppet's claim for "building up national strength" for "competition" with someone is aimed at keeping the present division of the country forever. This is an intolerable challenge to our people and the world people who want to see the reunification of Korea.

Noting that the puppet made no mention of the violation of human rights and the bribery scandal in the United States which are a target of world-wide denunciation, the commentary stresses: In the new year the puppets will meet greater condemnation and resistance internally and externally and this will result in hastening their destruction.

NEW DPRK AMBASSADOR TO JORDAN NAMED

SK030340Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0335 GMT 3 Jan 77 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, January 3 (KCNA) -- The Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made public a decree on appointing Comrade Yi Sok-yong as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of our country to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

MORE CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES TO KIM

SK310407Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0338 GMT 31 Dec 77 SK

[Excerpt] Pyongyang, December 31 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song received messages of greetings from foreign party leaders upon his election to the high post of president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Messages came from Walid Jumblatt, chairman of the Lebanese Socialist Progressive Party; E.M.S. Namboodiripad, general secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist); and Kazi Zafar Ahmed, secretary general of the United People's Party of Bangladesh and president of the Worker's Federation of Bangladesh.

The messages extended sincerest, warm congratulations to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song upon his election to the high post of president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

KWP CONGRATULATES DANISH COMMUNIST ON ELECTION

SK190435Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 19 Dec 77 SK

[Text] Pyongyang, December 19 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea on December 16 sent a message to Jorgen Jensen, congratulating him upon his election as chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Denmark. The message said:

The Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea extends congratulations to you upon your election as chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Denmark. Convinced that the friendly relations between our two parties will continue to develop favourably, we take this opportunity to wish you success in your responsible work.

KWP GREETS DENMARK LEFT SOCIALIST PARTY

SK190407Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0402 GMT 19 Dec 77 SK

[Text] Pyongyang December 19 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea on December 16 sent a message to the executive committee of the Left Socialist Party of Denmark, greeting the tenth anniversary of the founding of the LSPD. The message said:

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Left Socialist Party of Denmark, the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea extends fraternal greetings to the entire members of your party and the working people of Denmark.

We sincerely rejoice over and warmly hail the successes made by your party over the past ten years since its founding in the struggle against the aggressive manoeuvres of the imperialists and monopoly capitalist exploitation and for defence of the democratic rights and vital interests of the working people and for socialism.

Believing that the relations of friendship and cooperation forged between our two parties will continue to develop in the future on good terms through the common struggle, we take this opportunity to heartily wish you new successes in your work.

BRIEFS

SUDANESE VISITOR--Pyongyang, December 21--Amir Moujamil al-Koubaní, member of the Central Committee of the Sudan Socialist Union and general director of the youth and children's palace of the Sudan, left Pyongyang on December 20 by air. [Excerpt] [Pyongyang KCNA in English 0406 GMT 21 Dec 77 SK]

KIM SPEECH PUBLISHED--Pyongyang, December 28--The publishing house of the Workers Party of Korea brought out in booklet form "On Developing the Engineering Industry Onto Higher Stage", the speech of the great leader Comrade Kim II-song at a national meeting of activists in the domain of engineering industry on August 20, 1977. In the historic work the great leader Comrade Kim II-song pointed to the position of the engineering industry and its importance in the economic development of the country and the proud achievements of our heroic working class which, under the wise leadership of our party, had built an independent powerful base of engineering industry in an historically short period after the liberation, overcoming all difficulties. [Excerpt] [Pyongyang KCNA in English 0341 GMT 28 Dec 77 SK]

HAPTONG: POSSIBILITY OF PAR TONG-CHIN-VANCE TALKS

SKO40825Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0815 GMT 4 Jan 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, Jan 4 (HAPTONG) -- The government is considering holding a Korea-U.S. foreign ministers conference early this year to heal the wound the Pak Tong-son case has made on the relations between the two countries and to have further talks on the proposed U.S. compensatory measures in connection with President Carter's plans to withdraw American ground troops from Korea, it was reported today.

A government source said the possibility of Foreign Minister Pak Tong-chin meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance cannot be ruled out when he visits Washington in February to preside over a Korean ambassadors' meeting, the report said. The source also said there is also a possibility of Vance coming to Seoul in February or March for a visit to Korea.

PAK CHONG-HUI'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE REPORTED

SK010355Y Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 1 Jan 78 pp 1.7 SK

[Text] President Pak Chong-hui has called on the people to accelerate their endeavors to achieve a self-reliant economy and defense with "pride and confidence" as an independent nation.

He emphasized the need to expedite consolidation of national strength sufficient to safeguard peace because only superior capabilities can deter the North Korean communists aggression and oblige them to agree to competition of good will on the peninsula.

In a New Year message issued yesterday, the chief executive said that the Republic of Korea's national strength has already taken superiority over that of North Korea, but he added: "Even though we live in peace today, we must not for a moment weaken our determination and readiness to cope with any contingency."

"Such a posture, which alone can prevent national tragedies," he said, "provides a key to guaranteeing the continuing of our march forward."

"Today we have moved a step closer to the construction of a prosperous welfare society, which constitutes an interim objective on our way to national renaissance," the chief executive said.

President Pak said that in its tenacious devotion to the construction of a strong and wealthy fatherland, the nation has courageously overcome countless difficulties.

"As we have regained our pride and confidence, we are not afraid of whatever ordeals and challenges may lie ahead of us," President Pak said.

"We must make this year a time when we further accelerate our endeavors to achieve a self-reliant economy and defense with pride and confidence as an independent nation," the president said. The president said that it is the ardent aspiration of the nation to achieve peaceful unification of the fatherland. He said that for this purpose, the nation has been fostering the national strength sufficient to safeguard peace and prosperity on this land.

Superior Capabilities

"We must expedite the consolidation of national strength, which has already taken superiority over that of the North Korean communists, because only our superior capabilities can deter their aggression and oblige them to agree to a south-north competition of good will toward peace, prosperity, and eventually peaceful unification."

In the message, the chief executive said: "The invaluable blood and sweat shed by our generation will surely be inherited by our posterity as precious assets, on the basis of which a new era in the history of the Korean people will open. Before us, there can only be resounding marches toward the creation of new history.

"In the new year, which happens to mark the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Korea and the second year of the fourth five-year economic development plan, we have set the goal of attaining a per capita gross national product of more than \$1,000.

"I join all the people at home to express our heartfelt thanks and New Year greetings to our compatriots abroad who contribute to the honor of our nation in foreign countries, and we extend the same gratitude and season's blessings to our construction workers, technicians, export businessmen and deep-sea fishermen who proudly demonstrate our nation's capabilities and spirit all over the world, especially in the Middle East.

"In retrospect, although we encountered numerous difficulties and trials last year, we wisely surmounted them all and accomplished many excellent achievements.

"Our economy continued to grow while achieving considerable stability despite many uncertainties in the international environment and challenges arising from world economy. Last year, there occurred a series of heartbreaking disasters such as droughts and floods, accidents at Iri and Changsong and the sinking of fishing boats in the East Sea.

"Nevertheless, it was extremely heartwarming to see all of our people react to such unforeseen disasters with speed and courage, participating with a sense of brotherly love in relief efforts for the disaster victims. We have shown by deeds our national unity as a civilized people.

"We were firmly determined not to tolerate any damage from the unprecedented drought of last year, and as a consequence, we achieved the world's highest unit rice production of 4,940-kg per hectare on the average and the record annual harvest of 6,006,000 tons of rice.

"Furthermore, it was during the past year that we came to mark a milestone in the course of industrialization toward national renaissance by surpassing the mark of \$10,000 million in annual exports. This was a reward for hard work shared by all the people.

"The growing strength of our nation was also proven in the international arena through such meaningful events as the conquest of the summit of Mt. Everest by our alpinists who manifested the Korean people's strong spirit before the whole world, and victories by our young people at the world skill olympics and in various international sports events.

"Besides, we have continued our efforts to repair or revive various cultural assets and historical sites in which our ferefathers' wisdom and spirit are embodied. We want to use these cultural symbols in consolidating our spirit of self-reliance.

"As I am convinced that all these achievements are fruits of our citizens' sincere efforts, efforts made in order to fulfill the respective roles each of us plays while practicing the ethical values of the Yusin (revitalizing reforms) philosophy, I wish to repeat my warmest appreciation and congratulations to you all."

CHOE KYU-HA: 1978 PER CAPITA GNP GOAL OF \$1,000

SKO40110Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0100 GMT 4 Jan 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, Jan 4 (HAPTONG) -- Premier Choe Kyu-ha called on government officials today to do their best for the enhancement of the sounder national spirit and national consensus among the people. Premier Choe said a sound national unity and spirit is indispensable for the realization of the total national consensus system in which the national survival is ensured.

In an address at the Capitol ceremony this morning marking the initiation of government business for the year, Choe also mentioned the government's administration reform movement. He said irregularities and wrongdoings still persist in some quarters of officialdom though the discipline of the public employees has been visibly established.

Choe said 1978 is the year in which the nation would envisage attaining the goal of 1,000 dollar per capita GNP three year's ahead of the schedule and time to redouble efforts to construct a wealthy nation in the 1980's.

NAM TOK-U: 10-11 PERCENT ECONOMIC GROWTH IN 1978

SK310145Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0050 GMT 31 Dec 77 SK

[Text] Seoul, Dec 31 (HAPTONG) -- Economic Planning Minister Nam Tok-u today said that the government will manage to achieve an annual economic growth of ten to eleven percent next year. Minister Nam further said efforts will be made to peg commodity price hikes below the ten percent level next year.

Disclosing the government's major economic policy goals for next year, the nation's top economic planner said that the government will place its policy emphasis on sound economic foundation, promotion of investments, trade expansion and social development.

The government will ensure the timely import and stockpile of major raw materials needed for qualitative improvement of the Korean economy, Minister Nam said. Through the establishment of a fair transaction order and effective management of the money supply, the government will exert its best to stabilize commodity prices next year, he said.

Efforts will also be made to encourage investments and expand job opportunities next year, he said. Various supporting measures will be taken to help achieve 12.5 billion dollars in exports next year, he said. Local enterprises will be encouraged to boost export sales of heavy and chemical industry products and strengthen their competitiveness on the international market, he said.

The government will also continue to develop highly educated technical manpower next year, he added.

GOVERNMENT EXPANSION FOR 1978 OUTLINED

SKO20128Y Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 1 Jan 78 SK

[Text] The government plans to increase the number of its employees this year to staff new government organizations, including the Ministry of Energy and Resources. According to a plan of the Ministry of Government Administration, in addition to the already established Ministry of Energy and Resources, an Office of Planning and Management will be established in the Office of Veterans Administration, three bureaus will be added to the Ministry of Education, a Bureau of Finance will be created in the Korea Maritime and Port Authority; and a government office with the position officer-in-charge will be newly established. Thus, 1 office, 6 bureaus and 39 sections will be established this year.

Also to be established this year are a weather research institute in the Ministry of Science and Technology, a ginseng research institute, and a training institute in the Office of Monopoly. The Ministry of Health and Social Affairs will open a National Public Health Research branch in Tabjon. Finally a Kwanguu museum will be established under the Ministry of Culture and Information and a food research institute will be set up in the office of rural development.

In all, 14 new government organs will be established this year. The number of government employees will be increased as follows: 5,713 new education officials; 2,110 police; 995 communications officials; 409 warders; and 1,058 other administrative officials.

DEFENSE MINISTER STRESSES INDEPENDENCE

OW021345Y Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0915 GMT 1 Jan 78 OW

[Defense Minister No Chae-hyon's New Year message to the ROK Armed Forces and reserves-recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear officers and men of the ROK Armed Forces and members of the Homeland Defense Reservist Force:

On the occasion of the New Year, with its promise of vigorous leaps and advances, I first of all wish to express to you, officers and men of the ROK Armed Forces and members of the Reservist Force--who have been working for the defense of the country at the front, in the rear, in the sky, at sea, in your hometowns and at your places of work--my wholehearted appreciation for your efforts. I hope that the new year will be another glorious and successful year for intensifying our efforts to achieve an independent national defense.

At this critical juncture in our national security, we are faced with new challenges and trails. The current international situation, characterized by unending tensions and complications, shows signs of increased instability due to the conflicting interests of nations surrounding us. At the same time many changes have taken place in the existing system of international cooperation.

Striving to exploit this chaotic international situation and harboring the delusion that, if and when U.S. forces are withdrawn from South Korea, the situation will become favorable for a reinvasion, the North Korean communists are on the one hand continuing their sham peace offensives and intrigues to alienate the ROK from the United States, and on the other stepping up preparations for a surprise attack on the south in order to win the battle quickly by issuing a general mobilization order.

Growing impatient with further consolidation of our independent defense posture and realizing that they are running out of time in their effort to communize the south and achieve reunification by force of arms, the North Korean puppets are certain to plot this year to create internal social chaos in the ROK and to carry out various military provocations to undermine our comprehensive security posture and test the ROK-U.S. mutual defense system.

Dear officers and men of the ROK Armed Forces and members of the Reservist Force, these developments at home and abroad and the North Korean puppets! provocative maneuvers require us to be firmly resolved to expedite our independent national defense program. We must hear in mind the weighty national defense mission assigned to us and further strive to fulfill the responsibility assigned to each of us.

We are mobilizing all the nation's resources and potential, bringing our national strength and efficiency into full play in order to be able to repel any challenge which may jeopardize our nation's right to exist and in order to attain prosperity. Our prople as well as our allies are closely watching our armed forces carrying out the weight, and arduous task assigned them by the nation and the times. To meet the nation's expectations, our armed forces should exert every effort and assume a solid, invincible posture. At the same time they should make untiring efforts to achieve the goal of independent national defense. The only way of safeguarding freedom and prosperity against communist aggression and insuring the country's democratic unification is to acquire superior military strength to be able to have the upper hand over the North Korean puppets.

Dear officers and men of the ROK Armed Forces and members of the Reservist Force, we have now reached a crucial point where dependence on other countries for our national defense is being replaced by an era of mutual cooperation. We are on the threshold of an era of independent national defense in which we must defend ourselves with our own efforts and carve out our own destiny by ourselves.

In the new year we should strive to achieve total unity under the leadership of his excellency the president, the commander in chief of the armed forces, and strive hard to make our defense still more impregnable so as to enable the people to engage in their respective occupations and to contribute to reinforcing our national strength.

REACTION TO PAK TONG-SON AGREEMENT

Ruling Parties

SK310240Y Seoul HARROWS in English 0235 GMT 31 Dec 77 SK

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 31 (HAPTONG)--The ruling Democratic Republican Party today welcomed the agreement reached between Seoul and Washington on the handling of the controversial Pak Tong-son case. Commenting on the announcement here of the Korea-U.S. agreement, Rep. Pak Chol, spokesman for the party, said that "it is fortunate to see that the major obstacle that has marred the relations between the two countries is finally removed." He expressed the hope that all provisions in the agreement will be faithfully honored and put into effect by the two parties and that the traditional ties and friendship between the two nations will be further solidified.

Rep. Yi Chong-sik, spokesman for the pro-government parliamentary group "Yujhonghoe," said he was very pleased to note that the controversial issue was finally brought to a solution. He also said all misunderstandings arising between the two countries because of the unfortunate case will now be eliminated and their traditional friendship will be further strengthened.

Opposition NDP

SK310245Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0240 GMT 31 Dec 77 SK

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 31 (HAPTONG) -- The major opposition New Democratic Party said today the agreement announced here on the handling of the so-called Pak Tong-son scandal has brought no complete solution to the controversial case at all, only implying that the two governments came just one step closer to a solution.

Commenting on the Korea-U.S. agreement, Rep. Ko Chae-chung, official spokesman for the party, said what his party wants to know is whether the nation's soverign rights had been duly respected in the course of the knotty negotiations with the U.S. on the matter, and what the government had gained by stalling Pak's requested testimony in the U.S. on his alleged payoff scandal in Washington.

He called on the government to bring back to a normal track as soon as possible the nation's diplomacy, which he said has been unduly preoccupied with the handling of the controversial case.

CHUNGANG ILBO Editorial

SK301035Y Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 30 Dec 77 pp 2 SK

[Editorial: "A New Aspect of the Pak Tong-son Case"]

[Text] The Pak Tong-son case which has strained relations between the ROK and the United States for more than a year has entered a new stage with the conclusion of an agreement on procedural matters concerning Pak's visit to the United States for the purpose of testifying. By issuing a joint statement, the ROK and U.S. governments plan to strike an agreement on 30 December on dismissing the indictment against Pak, on granting him total immunity from prosecution on the alleged charges, on ROK-U.S. joint interrogation of Pak in the ROK on testimony before the U.S. courts and on matters guaranteeing Pak's return home.

With this the difference of opinions on procedural matters existing between the two countries are eliminated. Thus a stage for investigating practical matters has emerged. Accordingly some people in the United States who have suspected that the ROK side has tried to conceal the incident, will have no grounds whatsoever for saying this.

However, problems have not been completely settled with the solution of the points in dispute. Rather, it is not an exaggeration to say that concrete developments with regard to the Pak Tong-son case will take place from now on.

Should Pak visit the United States and testify, the whole aspect of the incident will be brought to light. Depending on the progress of the proceedings, it is expected that along with dispute over the matter of morality, struggles among political parties will be intensified. In this case a question of whether the Rok Government was involved in the scandal might again loom, attracting attention from the U.S. Congress and the press. Therefore we should expect that we will perhaps undergo further trials on several occasions in connection with this incident.

Our side's concession to the demand that Pak should go to the United States and testify should be interpreted as a considerate act of totally respecting the traditional, special friendly relations between the ROK and the United States. The U.S. side's investigation of Pak, and matters concerning Pak's visit to the United States for the purpose of testifying, were somewhat irrational at first in view of differences in legal systems. Even though the decision to make a visit to the United States is in accordance with Pak's own intention, and even though a prior guarantee will be made for thoroughgoing protection with regard to the visit, his trip to the United States might give the impression that the ROK has given in to U.S. pressure. The generation of misunderstanding in the relations between the ROK and the United States is a sad phenomenon not only for us, but also for the United States. Therefore the conditions for Pak's visit to the United States should be strictly abided by and correctly interpreted so that we can dispel unnecessary misunderstandings at home and abroad.

As will be clarified in the joint statement, the United States should correctly keep its promise in repatriating Pak every time he concludes the necessary court testimony. It is publicly known that Kim Hyong-uk, Kim Sang-kun and Son Ho-yong, who have betrayed the fatherland in the United States, have been directly or indirectly inspired and influenced by the U.S. side. Taking for granted that this type of phenomenon may take place, similar attempts, if any, toward Pak will produce an irreversible catastrophe as far as relations between the ROK and the United States are concerned. In connection with this, U.S. Government authorities should take measures to prevent Pak from being exposed to the maneuvers of some anti-ROK forces within the United States and to protect him.

At the same time we urge calm reflection on the part of the United States with regard to the heated dispute in the United States over the Pak Tong-son case.

In any event the Pak Tong-son case, together with the decision on withdrawal of U.S. ground forces from Korea, has provided us an opportunity to reflect on the position of the United States toward the ROK and vice versa. As a result, emphasis has recently been placed on mutual reliance and on development of common interests, as opposed to unconditional ties sealed in blood and relations of unilateral reliance and protection.

Disputes over the formula for ROK-U.S. relations have been limited to unilateral allegations by both parties. The two parties have been so absorbed in the Pak Tong-son case that they have failed to exert joint efforts in expounding a desirable framework for relations between them.

Now that we are about to close one chapter on a sad incident, let us join efforts to heal and restore ROK-U.S. relations to a friendly level so that we can carry out productive activities. We hope that the relations between the ROK and the United States may settle down, as dust settles after rainfall.

SIHANOUK EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT ON SRV AGGRESSION

BK040126Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 3 Jan 78 BK

[Text of Norodom Sihanouk's message supporting the 31 December Democratic Cambodian Government statement--read by announcer]

[Text] After listening to the statement of the Government of Democratic Cambodia addressed to the Cambodian Revolutionary Army and Cambodian people and to Democratic Cambodia's friends, near and far, on the five continents and to world public opinion, dated 31 December 1977, Samdech [Prince' Norodom Sihanouk sent a message on 3 January 1978 to the KCP Central Committee expressing his seething indignation at the unwarranted, massive and coordinated invasion in the form of an undeclared, premeditated war launched by the Vietnamese against our Cambodian territory, and unreservedly supporting the statement of the Government of Democratic Cambodia. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's message reads in full as follows:

Phnom Penh, 3 January 1978

Respectfully to the esteemed and beloved KCP Central Committee:

We unite with the compatriots around the party and Government of Democratic Cambodia in fervently and fully supporting the historic statement and the wise, correct attitude of the KCP, the People's Assembly and the Government of Democratic Cambodia. We are deeply moved by and feel the greatest pride and admiration for the extremely noble patriotism treasured by the party and the children of the party, namely, the people and Revolutionary Army of Democratic Cambodia, in defending the nation's territorial sovereignty, the nation's land and waters, the nation's boundaries and the nation's peace and honor.

We beg the party and the Government of Democratic Cambodia permission to extend our best wishes to you. May you, esteemed and beloved gentlemen, win permanent great victories over aggressor Vietnam and other enemies of all stripes and from all directions, and may you remain effective forever in the historic mission of leading our Democratic Cambodian people, nation and fatherland on the noble road toward power, glory, prosperity, progress, plentifulness, happiness, justice, democracy and independence with territorial integrity and great prestige.

In conclusion we should like to present our undying allegiance to our people, nation and fatherland and to Democratic Cambodia under the KCP's immortal red flag. Under all circumstances we remain always prepared to serve the nation and fatherland in accordance with the wish of the party and Government of Democratic Cambodia.

I ask the esteemed and beloved party to kindly accept my highest regards.

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

DISTRICT NEAR SRV BORDER HARVESTS RICE CROP

BK040635Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 3 Jan 78 BK

[Unattributed article: "The Srok Thong Khmum Cooperative Peasants' Struggle to Defend and Harvest Their Rice Crops"]

[Text] Srok Thong Khmum is adjacent to national Route 7, Pompong Cham Sector, eastern region. Under the KCP's correct and clearsighted leadership our cooperative peasants in Srok Thong Khmum have sacrificed everything and overcome all sorts of obstacles in their efforts to solve the water supply problem in the drive to increase agricultural production. They have struggled to defend and build the country and improve their living standard.

Thanks to their irrigation systems, including the water reservoirs at Boeng Krachap, Khum Suong, Khum Chikor, and the Dapmuoy Makara, the Mophey Kanha and Mohpey Min: irrigation canals, as boon as the rainy season began they launched an offensive to grow the early maturing and the rainy season rice crops in a most vigorous manner, and succeeded in fulfilling the party's plan. The drive to grow the last rice crop of the year has also proceeded vigorously, and in December the crop grew well everywhere.

All along national Route 7 as far as Khum Suong--in areas such as Veal Chong Angkrong, Sralap, Vihear Luong, Chikor, Sre Siem and so forth--the rainy season rice is now blooming or turning golden brown.

The immediate tasks of our cooperative peasants in Srok Tsong Khmum now consist of defending the ripening rice in the fields and carefully harvesting and gathering the crop. Our cooperative peasants in Srok Tbong Khmum clearly realize that this year's good rice crop is the result of their efforts made throughout the past year under our KCP's correct and wise leadership. This is why they have heightened their vigilance and struggled to defend this rice crop in all circumstances to prevent it from being destroyed. They have also tried to protect their crop from harm and damage from birds, rats and forest fire.

Those assigned to the rice harvest have done everything to bring in the crop-harvesting the rice when it was still brown and never letting it ripen too long in the field, which could damage it. All harvesting activities have been carried out with the constant thought of protecting the crop.

Our cooperative peasants in Srok Tbong Khmum pledge to struggle to protect their rice crop and harvest it as quickly as possible, gathering the entire crop contributing to the effort to build and defend the country, making it into a powerful nation developed in all fields and preserving this crop for the frontline to boost the fighting strength of our Revolutionary Army and helping it win brilliant victories in the task of defending the territory of our beloved fatherland.

RADIO COMMENTARY ON DEFENDING, BUILDING COUNTRY

BKO40404Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 3 Jan 78 BK

[Station commentary: "As the Masters of the Country and Revolution, Our Cambodian People Are Vigorously and Enthusiastically Striving To Defend and Build the Country"]

[Text] Our Cambodian people are a great people. They have a time-honored record of valient struggle against imperialism, colonialism and the feudal-capitalist oppressor classes. In particular, since 30 September 1960 when our KCP was founded and began following a wise, correct strategic and tactical line, our people, especially our poor, have further upheld the tradition of fighting and uncompromisingly struggling against the enemies of all stripes with even greater intensity and spirit.

Under our KCP's correct and clearsighted leadership, our people, especially our poor, offered everything-their families, kinsmen, husbands, sons and daughters and even their own lives-in an uprising to wage a courageous revolutionary struggle. Through centuries of arduous, persistent and life-and-death struggle and, particularly, in the past 15 years, our people finally succeeded in bringing about a national democratic revolution. Our people drove out and exterminated the U.S. imperialists, the traitorous Lon Nol clique and the feudal-capitalist class members, toppling and kicking them out of our Cambodian soil in a complete and definitive manner on 17 April 1975.

Ever since that most victorious day our Cambodian people have started a new, most radiant and enlightened chapter in their history. Our Cambodian people are completely and definitively liberated. They enjoy full rights and freedom. In particular our poor have become the masters of the country, the revolution and their own future. Under our KCP'S wise and correct leadership, all our Cambodian people, including the union workers, cooperative peasants, Revolutionary Army, male and female combatants and revolutionary cadres, in their capacity as the masters of the country, the revolution and their own destiny, have continued to make sacrifices in the offensive to vigorously and enthusiastically defend and build the country by mainly adhering to independence, sovereignty and self-reliance. Our people unhesitatingly struggle to overcome all a obstacles without retreating a single step. They study and repeatedly draw experience from all undertakings until they reach total victory.

During the first 2 years--1975 and 1976--all our Cambodian people under the KCP'S wise and correct leadership, successfully repaired roads, bridges and ports which were heavily damaged by the extremely devastating war of the U.S. imperialists and lackeys. They also plunged into a great offensive to build irrigation networks, such as field embankments, dams, canals, ditches and reservoirs, thereby succeeding to a great extent in solving the water supply problem for rice cultivation. They also fought hard to plant rice, and other crops and gradually increased grain production, thus solving the problem of the people's livelihood and improving their living conditions.

In addition to the fact that our people succeeded in their struggle to restore the economy, build the country and make it leap forward, our people were also very successful in delending the country.

In 1977, the great movement launched by our people under the KCP'S wise and correct leadership to defend and build the country in a well coordinated manner became increasingly powerful and achieved all-round progress at a great leap forward speed. In national defense, our people and Revolutionary Army have in a most praiseworthy way defended the territory, including the land, terriorial waters, territorial sea, islands and interior of the country. We have defended 100 percent of our territory without losing even a single square inch.

In national construction our people and Revolutionary Army have also strived hard to transform the appearance of our Cambodian fatherland, giving it a brand new lock. In the capital and various provincial cities, our union workers have struggled to transform old factories, which formerly depended entirely on foreign raw materials, into factories which use local raw materials instead. They have worked hard to expand these factories and produce farm machines, agricultural tools and various utility items to serve the people's livelihood and agricultural production. They have also built a number of new factories.

In the rural areas our cooperative peasants, male and female combatants, cadres and Revolutionary Army have closely joined hands in the offensive to build reservoirs, dams and ditches and canals and embankments, enabling the present-day Cambodian countryside to be irrigated everywhere. They have striven to plant rice and other crops year round. Throughout the last rainy season in particular, they busily planted the early rice crop, the rainy season rice crop and the last ordinary rice crop of the year in order to fulfill and even overfulfill the plan set by our party and Government of Democratic Cambodia to maximize rice production. Thanks to all these efforts our Cambodian countryside today is covered by expanses of rice crops of different shades; golden plants, verdant transplanted rice seedlings and dark green vegetation of all kinds grow as far as the eye can see.

Along with the great movement to seethingly and vigorously defend and build the country launched by our Cambodian collective worker-peasant masses and Revolutionary Army, the great movement to defend and build the country launched by our male and female combatants and revolutionary cadres at various worksites, offices and departments throughout the country is equally seething and vigorous. Our brothers and sisters have strived to carry out all revolutionary tasks entrusted by the party with diligence, faith and joy. They are striving to fulfill their main tasks around the clock with a seething stamina and are constantly carrying out the party's instructions.

In their capacity as the masters of the country, revolution and future, our collective worker-peasant masses, Revolutionary Army, male and female combatants and revolutionary cadres are engaged in a battle to defend and build the country in the present new phase of the revolution courageously, vigorously and with constant revolutionary optimism. All this constitutes the highest degree of pride and greatest enthusiasm of our people and Revolutionary Army for our respected and beloved KCP.

The Cambodian people and Revolutionary Army are determined to turn their unswerving faith in the party into a combat spirit for the offensive to carry out their respective main tasks even more vigorously and enthusiastically so as to completely succeed in defending and making our Democratic Cambodia powerful and developed in all fields by leaps and bounds.

KHIEU SAMPHAN GREETS CASTRO ON CUBAN REVOLUTION DAY

BK010758Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[State Presidium Chairman Khieu Samphan's 31 December message to President of Councils of State and Ministers Fidel Castro Ruz on the 19th anniversary of the Cuban revolution]

[Text] Respectfully to His Excellency Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of Stat. and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, Havana:

On the 19th anniversary of the Cuban revolution's victory, in the name of the people and Government of Democratic Cambodia we have the great pleasure to convey to Your Excellency, the Government and people of Cuba our warmest congratulations. We wish Your Excellency the best of health; and may the Cuban people enjoy glory and happiness. May the traditional friendship existing between our two countries develop further in the interests of our two peoples. Highest regards.

Phnom Penh, 31 December 1977

KHIEU SAMPHAN MESSAGE TO NUMAYRI ON SUDAN'S NATIONAL DAY

BK010832Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[State Presidium Chairman Khicu Samphan's 1 January message to President Numayri on Sudan's national day]

[Text] Respectfully to His Execliency Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan, Khartoum:

On the occasion of the national day of the Democratic Republic of Sudan on behalf of the people and Government of Democratic Cambodia, we are delighted to convey to Your Excellency, the Government and the friendly people of Sudan our warmest congratulations. We wish Your Excellency the best of health and successful achievement of your lofty mission; and may the Sudanese people win more successes in their national defense and construction work.

We are convinced that the friendly relations between our two countries which are both nonalined, will further develop to the benefit of our two peoples. Highest regards.

Phnom Penh, 1 January 1978

KHIEU SAMPHAN GREETS PLO'S 'ARAFAT ON STRUGGLE DAY

BK010812Y Phom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[State Presidium Chairman Khieu Samphan's 1 January message to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on the anniversary of the Palestinian armed struggle]

[Text] Respectfully to His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolutionary armed forces:

On the anniversary day of the beginning of the Palestinian people's armed struggle, on behalf of the people and Government of Democratic Cambodia we are extremely delighted to extend our warmest congratulations to Your Excellency, the friendly Palestinian people and all the combatants of the Palestinian revolutionary forces.

In the past year the Palestinian people and Palestinian revolutionary forces overcame all sorts of obstacles and hardships, while continuing their struggle against the Israeli Zionist aggressors without reconciliation or negotiations.

We are convinced that through the resolute use of revolutionary violence and reliance on their own forces and with the help and support from the people of the Third World non-alined countries and other peace- and justice-loving people in the world, the Palestinian people, who have a long tradition of valiant struggle and lofty heroism, will certainly obtain their sacred national rights.

We would like to reaffirm that the people and Government of our Democratic Cambodia stand firmly and resolutely on the side of the Palestinian people in their just armed struggle under the PLO's leadership for the liberation of their fatherland's sacred territory, the right for self-determination and the right to create an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to wish Your Excellency the best of health, the successful achievement of your lofty mission; and may the Palestinian people--under the PLO's leadership--achieve more victories for their just cause. May Your Excellency accept our salutations and sentiments of warm friendship.

Phnom Penh, 1 January 1978

LATE ITEM: PEASANTS SUPPORT GOVERNMENT AGAINST VIETNAM

BKO41359Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 3 Jan 78 BK

[Resolution adopted at a mass meeting of representatives of Cambodian cooperative peasants from all districts and sectors throughout the country--date and place of meeting not given]

[Text] After listening to the statement of the Government of Democratic Cambodia addressed to the Cambodian Revolutionary Army and Cambodian people and read by Comrade Khieu Samphan, chairman of the State Presidium of Democratic Cambodia, on 31 December, 1977, dealing with the aggressive, annexationist Vietnamese sending a large scale, coordinated armed forces to aggress against Cambodian territory, plunder the people's rice and property and barbarously and cruelly kill Cambodian people, our cooperative peasants in all districts throughout the country have suspended for awhile their tasks of harvesting, collecting and storing grain; growing the dry season rice crop, secondary food crops and vegetables and other tasks at all points in order to meet to voice their support for the government statement and denounce with seething indignation the aggressive, annexationist Vietnamese for launching an undeclared war against our Democratic Cambodia.

With great indignation our cooperative peasants took turns making statements exposing the cruel, barbarous acts committed against our Cambodian territory and the people living in the border areas by the aggressive, annexationist Vietnamese. They thoroughly pointed out the meaning and significance of the struggle of our Revolutionary Army and people to end the cruel aggression by the aggressive, annexationist Vietnamese and explained the specific tasks of our cooperative peasants throughout the country in the current situation. After examining and debating all aspects, our cooperative peasants in all districts adopted the following resolution:

- 1. The statement of the Government of our Democratic Cambodia dated 31 December 1977 is of historic significance for our Cambodian Revolutionary Army and Cambodian people in the offensive to end aggressive, annexationist Vietnam's undeclared war which is being carried out in the most ignominious manner against our Democratic Cambodian territory.
- 2. Vietnam's strategy of annexing Cambodian territory and its strategy for an Indochinese federation have been smashed and successively defeated on our Democratic Cambodian territory.
- 3. Vietnam's expansionist strategy in Southeast Asia and its plan to become a power in Southeast Asia have been clearly revealed to the Cambodian people and all the independence- and justice-loving peoples and governments in Southeast Asia and the world; and these strategies are being driven to an impasse.
- 4. Our cooperative peasants throughout the country share unanimous views in regard to the statement of the Government of our Democratic Cambodia, and take great pride in the most noble task of struggling to eliminate Vietnam's strategy of annexing Cambodian territory, its strategy for an Indochinese federation and its expansionist designs against Cambodian territory and the Cambodian people.

For this reason, we Cambodian cooperative peasants pledge to constantly support the battlefront through the following resolution:

- 1. We are determined to always hold high our revolutionary vigilance and defend the nation's honor, independence and sovereignty in order to defend Democratic Cambodia, preserve the victorious gains of the revolution, protect the KCP and defend the worker-peasant revolutionary administration by completely eliminating from all our cooperatives and Cambodian territory both the enemy remnants planted within and the enemy aggressors from without, as well as all their activities.
- 2. We are determined to further deepen and intensify the socialist revolution to create a strong basis for present and future national defense and construction efforts by striving to eliminate remnants of private ownership both from the national society and from our mentalities.
- 5. We are determined to continue the offensive to implement the party's comprehensive socialist construction plan to the best of our ability by striving further to reap, collect, store and take care of the rainy reason rice harvest; grow as much dry season rice as land and water resources permit, regardless of the planting time; vigorously plant strategic crops, secondary food crops and vegetables in order to completely fulfill the party plan and effectively serve the battlefront at all times.
- 4. We are determined to strengthen and constantly raise high our adherence to organizational discipline in the cooperatives.
- 5. We are determined to strengthen the practice of thrift and always take good care of collective property in order to help build socialism rapidly, powerfully and comprehensively. As concrete acts to implement this, we are determined to save on water, rice and other grain by always taking good care of the rice in fields, granaries, barns, gunny-bags and sacks, without damage or loss. We are determined to bring in and safely store all kinds of farm tools such as plows, harrows, hoes, knives and axes, so that they will last as long as possible. We are also determined to care for our cattle and buffalo and keep them strong.
- 6. We are determined to struggle to eliminate all kinds of private, individual property and shape ourselves in line with the party's proletarian collectivist stand in order to fulfill all duties entrusted by the party and cooperatives to the best of our ability as our contribution to defending the country, defending the territory, protecting the national honor and building the country well and at great-leap-forward speed so as to seize victory at all costs over the annexationist Vietnamese enemy and the expansionists of all stripes.

Long live the correct and clearsighted KCP!

Long live the extremely powerful Cambodian revolution!

Long live the great Cambodian people!

Long live the valiant, invincible cambodian Revolutionary Army!

SRV ENVOY HEARS LAO POSITION ON CAMBODIAN CONFLICT

BKO40512Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lac 0430 GMT 4 Jan 78 BK

[Text] On 3 January Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, member of the Political Bureau of the LPRP Central Committee, vice premier and foreign minister of the LPDR, received Comrade Nguyen Si Hoat, SRV charge d'affaires in Laos, who handed him a copy of the SRV Government's 31 December 1977 statement on the Vietnam-Cambodia border issue.

At this reception, which took place in a cordial atmosphere, Comrade Phoun Sipaseut maintained that the incidents which have taken place between Vietnam and Cambodia are most regrettable, for they seriously damage the great friendly relations which the two nations have built with their flesh and blood through many decades of struggle against the common enemies of the three fraternal neighboring peoples.

As a sincere friend and close comrade of the peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia, the LPRP, the LPDR Government and all Laos! nationalities eagerly hope that the parties and governments of Vietnam and Cambodia will quickly meet to find a peaceful solution to the border issue between the two countries, on the principle of respect for each other's severeignty and territorial integrity. It is also to be hoped that, in a spirit of fraternal friendship, Vietnam and Cambodia will jointly find a solution to the border issue and consolidate the friendly relations between the two countries, in the immediate as well as the long-term interests of each country, in accordance with the ardent aspirations of the Lao people and the wishes of peace-loving peoples in Southeast Asia and the world.

SOUPHANOUVONG, PHOUN SIPASEUT GREET BURMA'S NATIONAL DAY

BK040356Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 4 Jan 78 BK

[Text] On 4 January President Souphanouvong sent a greetings message to U Ne Win, president of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, on the occasion of Burma's National Day.

The message said: On the occasion of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, on behalf of the Lao people, the ...PDR Government and in my own name I am happy to convey to you and, through you, to the Government and people of Burma warm congratulations and test wiches for happiness and prosperity. May the time-honored relations of friendship between the peoples of our two nations be consolidated, strengthened and developed with every passing day!

On the same occasion Phoun Sipaseut, vice premier and foreign minister, also sent a greetings message expressing hearty congratulations and best wishes to Burma's foreign minister U Hia Phone.

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN, SOUPHANOUVONG LAUD CUBA'S FOREIGN POLICY

BK030200Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 1 Jan 78 BK

[Text of 31 December 1977 greetings message from Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and premier, and Souphanouvong, president of state and the SPC, to Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, and Blas Roca Calderio, president of the Cuban National Assembly, on Cuban National Day]

[Text] On the occasion of the 19th National Day anniversary of the Republic of Cuba, on behalf of the LPRP Central Committee, the Supreme People's Council, the Government and the people of Laos we wish to extend to you, comrades, and through you to the

Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, the National Assembly, the Revolutionary Government and the fraternal people of Cuba our warm greetings and wholehearted congratulations.

Promoting and expanding the tradition of heroic, undaunted struggle and working industriously and perseveringly, the heroic Cuban people over the past 19 years, despite the provocations, interference and economic blockade against Cuba by the North American imperialists and counterrevolutionaries, thanks to the correct leadership of the Cuban Communist Party headed by Comrade Fidel Castro, have achieved many successes in maintaining the revolutionary gains and building Cuba following the path of socialism. During the past 2 years in particular, the Cuban people have concentrated all efforts and energies on enthusiastically implementing the resolutions adopted by the First Congress of the Cuban Communist Party with a view to making Cuba a strong, prosperous, socialist country. Socialist Cuba, the first land of freedom in the Western Hemisphere, has become a bright beacon of revolution in this region and a base for the struggle movements of the nations in Latin America, Africa and Asia for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

Following the Cuban people's glorious achievements in building socialism, pursuing correct foreign policies and positively performing their international tasks, the prestige and role of the Republic of Cuba have been steadily rising. These achievements form an important contribution to the strengthening of revolutionary and socialist forces.

As close comrades in arms, the Lao people are elated at the successes achieved by the fraternal Cuban people and regard those successes as their own. In the past as well as in the new stage of revolution, the party, Government and people of Cuba have always supported and assisted us. The relations and cooperation between our two countries based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism have also been steadily strengthened and developed.

We take this opportunity to again express our sincere thanks for this support and assistance. We wish the Cuban people new, yet greater successes in implementing the resolutions adopted by the Cuban Communist Party at its first congress. May the fraternal friendship and militant solidarity between our two peoples endure forever!

Vientiane, 31 December 1977
[Signed] Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and premier of the LPDR
Souphanouvong, president of state and of the Supreme People's Council

Phoun Sipaseut Greetings

BK030202Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 1 Jan 78 BK

[Text of greetings message from Phoun Sipaseut, vice premier and foreign minister, to Foreign Minister Isiloro Malmierca Poeli on Cuban National Day--date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of Cuba, I would like to convey to you, comrade, and through you to the fraternal Cuban people warm salutations and greetings.

I am elated over the success achieved by the fraternal Cuban people under the clear-sighted leadership of the Cuban Communist Party headed by Comrade Fidel Castro in implementing the first 5-year plan set forth by the Cuban Communist Party in its first congress to make Cuba a comprehensive strong socialist country.

These achievements form an important contribution to the strengthening of revolutionary and socialist forces and to the struggle for peace, independence, democracy and social progress of the people in Latin America and the rest of the world.

I wish you, comrade, good health and the Cuban people new, ever greater successes in their socialist construction task. May Lao-Cuban military solidarity and friendship endure forever!

BULGARIAN ECONOMIC AGREEMENT SIGNED IN VIENTIANE 31 DEC

BK011016Y Vientiane KPL in English 0929 GMT 1 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Vientiane, January 1 (KPL) -- An agreement on economic cooperation between Laos and Bulgaria was signed in Vientiane yesterday morning. The agreement was signed by Khamphet Phomsavan, staff director of the Lao Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Irrigation, and Ivan Panguelov, economic and trade attache of the Bulgarian Embassy in Vientiane. Also present were Khamsouk Saignaseng, minister of agriculture, forestry and irrigation, and other officials concerned of Laos and Tenyu Petrov Kolev, Bulgarian ambassador to Laos.

Under this agreement, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria will invest capital, help Laos and cooperate with her to build a 6,000-hectare farm for livestock breeding and cultivation. A 30-hectare farm will be also built to produce materials for producing scent. Bulgaria will assist Laos with machines for producing scent with a total invested capital of 14 million rubles (Soviet currency).

DIPLOMATIC CORPS NEW YEAR RECEPTION IN VIENTIANE

BK021422Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 2 Jan 78 BK

[Text] On the occasion of the international new year, on the morning of 1 January Philippine Ambassador Jose Evangelista led members of the diplomatic corps and various international organizations in Laos to express New Year greetings to leaders of the Supreme People's Council [SPC] and the LPDR Government. They were received by Souphanouvong, president of the LPDR and of the SPC; Phoun Sipaseut, vice premier and foreign minister; Khamsouk Keola, vice president and secretary general of the SPC; Souvanna Phouma, government adviser; Sali Vongkhamsao, minister in charge of the premier's office; other ministers and vice ministers; members of the SPC and many high-ranking cadres from various offices, organizations and ministries.

Jose Evangelista, as dean of the diplomatic corps, made a speech. He said:

Respected Souphanouvong, president of the LPDR: On this New Year's Day of 1978, on behalf of the diplomatic corps I have the honor to express sincere salutations and extend warm New Year greetings to Your Excellency and, through you, to the people of the LPDR. A month ago the LPDR celebrated its glorious second founding anniversary. In this second year of the LPDR's existence we rejoice over all the Lao people's resolve to advance over all difficulties to consolidate and strengthen their economy and society. The Lao people have restored and developed agriculture, forestry and animal husbandry, thereby stabilizing the economy. They have increased education and public health projects, publicized the national culture and achieved progress in other areas.

The LPDR has played an active role in the nonalined bloc, and made important contributions to UN activities. We hope that in the new year the LPDR will continue to achieve important progress in carrying out its plans.

On the occasion of the New Year celebration, on behalf of the diplomatic corps I extend our warm congratulations and best wishes to Your Excellency and, through you to the Government and people of the LPDR. We wish your country and people lasting peace, happiness and prosperity. We wish Your Excellency good health, longevity and happiness.

Then President Souphanouvong made a reply speech, thanking the diplomats for their warm greetings. He said:

Respected dean of the diplomatic corps, beloved and respected personages and comrades in the diplomatic corps and various international organizations; dear ladies and gentlemen and comrades: On behalf of the Lao people, the SPC, the Government and the premier of the LPDR and in my own name I profoundly thank you for your warm New Year greetings and high praise, expressed in a spirit of profound friendship.

During the past 2 years the LPDR overcame challenges and difficulties arising from our enemies' sabotage and destructive schemes against our young republic. Moreover, we encountered severe, unprecedented drought last year. However, under the LPRP's leadership our people, showing maximum endurance and patience, fully exercising their right to collective matery and using the precious assistance of the fraternal socialist and friendly countries and of the various international organizations, have won great successes in consolidating and strengthening the new regime and in resorting and developing the national economy and culture. We are also happy to learn that thanks to its correct, unswerving foreign policy, the LPDR's international status has grown steadily.

As we enter the new year, I reciprocally wish the dean of the diplomatic corps and personages and comrades in the diplomatic corps and the various international organizations as well as their wives good health, happiness and successes in your loft tasks in our country. On behalf of the Iao people, the SPC and the LPDR Government I convey our friendship and best wishes for good health, happiness, success and prosperity, through you, to the leaders and people of your countries. May the friendship and cooperation between the LPDR and your countries develop and be consolidated with each passing day. A happy New Year to you!

Guests and hosts toated the health of the Lao leaders and people, the health of the leaders and peoples of various friendly countries throughout the world and the development and eternity of the solidarity between the Lao Government and people and the peace-loving governments and peoples throughout the world.

1977 ACHIEVEMENTS IN ROAD BUILDING REPORTED

BK011014Y Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 1 Jan 78 LK

[Text] Vientiane, January 1 (KPL) -- Workers of the communications department of the Lao Ministry of Communications, Public Works and Transport, have fulfilled their 1977 plan. They have repaired 1,300 kilometres of old roads and built 1,160 kilometres of new ones, dozens of kilometres of them asphalted. Many new bridges were also built and old ones repaired. Many waterways were dredged and more than 30 ferry landings were built.

The department held a conference on December 24 to review its work and work out its 1978 plan. Sanan Soutthichak, minister of communications, public works and transport, attended the conference. He welcomed the workers! achievements recorded last year, and called on them to make greater efforts to fulfill their 1978 plan.

NGUYEN DUY TRINH'S VISIT SCHEDULED FOR 9-12 JAN

BK311035Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 30 Dec 77 BK

[Text] According to a report from the Foreign Ministry, His Excellency Nguyen Duy Trinh, SRV vice premier and foreign minister, and a party of senior officials will pay an official visit to Thailand as guests of the government from 9 to 12 January 1978 in order to strengthen relations and cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam.

NATION REVIEW REPORTS PHAM VAN DONG LETTER TO KRIANGSAK

BK0402116Y Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 4 Jan 78 pp 1, 3 BK

[Text] In a letter to Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan, Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong clarified the current border conflict between Vietnam and Cambodia and said that his country is not an aggressor. Spokesman for the Thai Government House, Mr Kamchat Kiphanit, disclosed the contents of the letter yesterday.

The letter was hand carried by Deputy Communications Minister Prasit Narongdet from Hanoi to Gen Kriangsak. Mr Prasit returned from a 4-day visit to Hanoi on December 30. Also in the letter, Prime Minister Dong thanked Gen Kriangsak for the warm hospitality given to the team of Ambassador-at-Large Nguyen Xian, who visited Bangkok in December.

And when Mr Prasit called on the Vietnamese premier in Hanoi on December 30 morning, prior to his departure for Bangkok, the Vietnamese leader also emphasised that Vietnam does not have any policy to violate the sovereignty of its neighbours. Mr Prasit recalled Prime Minister Dong telling him that Vietnam had for nearly 35 years suffered from wars. Vietnam therefore does not wish to see others face the same suffering it has gone through. "Friends from afar can never replace neighbours," Mr Prasit quoted the Vietnamese premier as saying.

Prime Minister Dong also said he is delighted to see Thailand implement its foreign policies to reconcile with neighbours. He thanked the Thai Government and the National Assembly for formulating and approving such agreeable foreign policies.

NATION REVIEW COMMENTS ON SRV-CAMBODIAN DISPUTE

BK030124Y Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 3 Jan 78 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Has Sino-Soviet Cold War Spilled Into Indochina?"]

[Text] There may be a super-computer somewhere that should be able to understand what Cambodia is trying to do, because nobody seems to understand the strange behaviour that emanates from Phnom Penh. It has been known for long that there has been some sort of a border war between Vietnam and Cambodia, but nobody knew how serious it was and we took it for granted that it is the same kind of skirmishes that have been frequently occurring in Prachin Buri. For Cambodia to break diplomatic relations with Vietnam there must be a major reason, and this appears to be territorial dispute and a border war of some intensity in which the Khmer Rouge seem to have come out second best. They only know instance of a communist country breaking diplomatic relations with another communist country occurred in 1961, when the Soviet Union broke ties with Albania. Even China and Russia, their relations cloven by an ideological rift coupled with territorial dispute, maintain diplomatic relations.

Looking at the cleavage in Cambodia-Vietnam relations from Bangkok, we are forced to conclude that Indochina is being sucked up into the Sino-Soviet cold war. It is even more pessimistic to think that the cold war may spill from Indochina to all of Southeast Asia, but still, Thailand must give it thought. The authorities in Phnom Penh obviously had a nod from China before they undertook this move, because the explanation for breaking ties with Hanoi came at a press conference given by the Cambodian ambassador in Peking. China has little to gain by this split because, first, Cambodia is no match for Vietnam militarily and, second, Soviet influence will gain in Hanoi. The Soviet Union has reported the news quite calmly, with only an oblique suggestion that Phnom Penh had Peking's backing. But neither the Kremlin nor TASS has made any direct comment on the affair, presumably because the news got Moscow by surprise.

Immediately after the communist takeover of Indochina many pundits theorized that Hanoi will seek hegemony over all of Indochina, but that did not seem to be happening because Cambodia was reported to be having regular border skirmishes with Vietnam. But, with hindsight, it is possible to say that Hanoi might have been seeking hegemony and was using military pressure against Cambodia. Cambodia has openly accusing the Vietnamese Army of occupying the "Parrot's Beak" salient.

China has a paranoic hatred for "hegemony", as is clearly evident from the fact that she will not sign a friendship treaty with Japan without the anti-hegemony clause. And certainly Peking will not allow Vietnam to move toward hegemony in Indochina, especially because, according to all reports, Hanoi is pro-Soviet. On the other hand it is in China's interest to patch up the differences between Cambodia and Vietnam so that Soviet interest may steadily wane in Hanoi. But looked at from any angle, the Cambodia-Vietnam split bodes ill for Southeast Asia.

THAI-CAMBODIAN BORDER REPORTED 'TENSE' BUT QUIET

BK040218Y Bangkok FOST in English 4 Jan 78 p 1 BK

[Text] The atmosphere along the Thai-Cambodian border remains tense with noticeable troop movements on the Cambodian side, but the guns are silent, a high ranking police officer recently returned from the frontier told the POST yesterday. Commander of the Border Patrol Police [BPP] Region I, Maj Gen Somphot Wilaichit, who visited BPP units in Trat, Chantaburi and Prachin Buri said he received reports that the Cambodians were on the move along the border, reinforcing their men with fresh troops and supplies, but have not conducted any intrusions over the past week. "Our forces along the entire border with Cambodia are on 100 percent alert, and will remain that way for an indefinite period until we are certain of Cambodian intentions. Our sovereignty must be protected as well as all the Thai people who live along the border, "Gen Somphot declared. "Cooperation and coordination between the RTA [Royal Thai Army] and the BPP has improved tremendously in the short period of time that their efforts have been directed by a central command.

GEN YOT INTERVIEWED ON CAMBODIAN BORDER EVENTS, OTHER MATTERS

BK020535Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 2 Jan 78 BK

[2 January interview with Deputy Army Commander Gen Yot Thephatsadin na Ayutthaya--recorded]

[Text] [Yot] The Cambodian border situation has been quiet lately, with virtually no fighting recently. We have been trying to avoid any kind of conflict and we believe that the Cambodian side is doing the same. As I have said before, minor border clashes could always occur. We have ordered our troops to avoid confrontations and the Cambodians are believed to have instructed their troops likewise. This may have helped to improve the current border situation.

[Question] Have Cambodian troops on the border been instructed to avoid clashes along the border?

[Answer] As far as we know, they were so instructed on various occasions. We intercepted some radio messages indicating that such instructions had been given. It is normal that occasional border clashes will occur.

[Question] Do you think the problem between Cambodia and the SRV will.... [interrupted by Yot]

[Answer] The Cambodian-Vietnamese border conflict has been going on for quite some time, but we do not know what are the causes of that conflict. We feel that if Cambodia wishes to befriend us, its border conflict with Vietnam should not affect its position.

[Question] Are we still being vigilant along the Cambodian border? [Answer] Yes, we are.

[Question] What measures will be taken against the currently rumored student activities -- demonstrations and rallies?

[Answer] I think the police and the intelligence people are probably trying to find the source of such rumors. I feel that the news about such student activities is just rumor. I don't think well-intentioned students will engage in such activities. The government is trying to assist constructive activities among workers, students and the general public. It has regularly brought up the topic of assistance to those groups in its discussion (?with the National Policy Council). The government has been trying to right certain wrongs, and therefore the students should not engage in any activities at this time which are not proper.

[Question] The issue of the trial of the 6 October incident defendants is being played up. Can you comment on this?

[Answer] The government has stated that the issue is in the hands of the court. As far as I know, the court is expeditiously proceeding with the trial to decide whether the defendants are guilty or not. Therefore, one should not create confusion over the matter. Most of the time it is not the students who kept bringing up the issue in order to create undesirable feelings among the students.

[Question] What measures do you think we should undertake to correct the problem of Thai students abroad being misinformed by erroneous information?

[Answer] I think the government has measures to correct this problem. I believe there are now only a small number of students who are misled by bad information. Communication between the government and the students is not blocked. Students can talk to the government about their problems and the government will answer them. Whatever it is that the students want the government can point out to them whether such a request can be met or not and why.

[Question] The prime minister has promised students that they will be allowed to participate in voluntary development activities. Is any support going to be given to the students?

[Answer] I think the government will support these student activities if they are well intended. I don't think the government will object to student activities which are beneficial to the people as a whole. There were many groups of students who assisted the local people while I was with the 3d Army Region. Many of them were even wounded by the terrorists. Those were the ones who were well intentioned. But there are also some who are ill intentioned. I don't think the government will object to the students' development activities, but first it will probably have to ascertain their intentions.

[Question] Now that Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthon has been given a military rank, where will she be assigned?

[Answer] She is a special officer, not an officer on active duty. She is unlike the crown prince who is on active duty.

BANGKOK RADIO CARRIES KAYSONE MESSAGE TO KRIANGSAK

BK311349Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 30 Dec 77 BK

[Text of message of thanks from Lao Premier Kaysone Phomvihan to Prime Minister Gen Kriangsak Chamanan for his greetings message on LPDR National Day]

[Text] I wish to profoundly thank Your Excellency for the congratulations and best wishes you extended to me on the occasion of the National Day of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on 2 December 1977. I firmly believe that the time-honored good fraternal relations between the peoples of Laos and Thailand will be further strengthened and consolidated with every passing day. Please accept my high regards on this occasion.

[Signed] Kaysone Phomivihan, Premier of the LPDR Government

Phoun Sipaseut Message

BK311351Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 30 Dec 77 BK

[Text of message of thanks from Phoun Sipaseut, Lao vice premier and foreign minister, to Foreign Minister Dr Uppadit Pachariyangkun for his greetings message on LPDR National Day]

[Text] I wish to thank Your Excellency for the congratulations and best wishes you extended to me on the occasion of the National Day of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on 2 December 1977. I hope that Lao-Thai relations will further improve with every passing day for the benefit of the peoples of our two neighboring countries. Please accept my high regards on this occasion.

[Signed] Phoun Sipaseut, vice premier and foreign minister of the LPDR Government

MEKONG AGREEMENT SCHEDULED TO BE SIGNED 5 JAN

BK040242Y Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 4 Jan 78 p 3 BK

[Text] Secretary General of the National Energy Administration Mr Prawit Ruyaphon will leave for Vientiane today to represent Thailand in signing a tripartite agreement with Laos and Vietnam on the development of new water resources in the Mekong lower basin. Secretary General of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Mr J.B.P. Maramis also travels from Bangkok to Vientiane today, to witness the signing ceremony. The signing ceremony is tentatively scheduled for tomorrow morning. Executive agent of the Mekong Committee Mr W.J. Van Der Oord left for the Lao capital yesterday to prepare for the ceremony.

The agreement is on the development of the new water resources in the Mekong lower basin which covers Laos, northeastern Thailand, Cambodia and southern Vietnam pending the participation of Cambodia in the original development project of the Mekong Committee. The Mekong Committee, comprising the four riparian states on the Mekong River, was technically paralysed by the non-participation of Cambodia since mid-1975. However, work under the development project has continued though parts of it have been held in abeyance.

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT EXPLAINS ASEAN TARIFF CUTS

BK030820Y Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 1 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Following the announcement of the Finance Ministry to reduce the customs duty of 12 categories of goods, which will be enforced from 1 January 1978 onward, the government has made a statement to give clarification on this. The statement said:

- 1. The reduction of customs duty will be given to goods originated from the ASEAN countries only. This is to comply with the agreement agreed upon by the ASEAN countries on the trade preferential [as heard]. According to the agreement, 57 items of Thailand's exports will in return receive customs duty reduction from those countries. This move has been taken to expand trade relations among the ASEAN countries.
- 2. The government has considered to reduce [as heard] customs duty to such kinds of products which will not adversely affect the agricultural and industrial products of the country. These products are also in great demand in the country too, only between 10 and 30 percent of the normal rate.
- 3. When Thailand deems it necessary to raise the rate of customs duty of these products, she can do so anytime, the statement said.

POST SUPPORTS KRIANGSAK'S RURAL AID POLICIES

BK030130Y Bangkok POST in English 3 Jan 78 p 6 BK

[Editorial: "Time To Develop Rural Areas"]

[Text] The new year has begun with the prime minister laying the right emphasis on rural areas as against urban, and on farmers as against city residents. Too many governments in the past paid too much attention to Bangkok to the detriment of the agricultural producers and those who live outside the metropolis. Development was concentrated in the capital city at the expense of the olks upcountry. Rice prices were fixed with the welfare of the Bangkokians in mind rather than that of the farmers. Past governments subsidised cheap gasoline for the car-owning rich in Bangkok with money that should have been used for rural development. It looks like all this is going to change.

From the tenor of his speech, Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan apparently does not consider Bangkok to be Thailand or that Thailand is Bangkok. His announced policies backed up by executive actions, legislative programmes and budgetary allocations show that he has 85 percent of the people's interest in mind. This is the absolute majority of Thais who have been described, in a sort of lip service by the urbanites, as the "backbone of the nation". The prime minister has apparently kept himself informed on conditions in the rural areas and he has made visits to certain critical areas for an onthe-spot look. At present he is preoccupied with the severe drought of last year which will affect the lives of the farmers who have been hard hit, as well as the national economy. General Kriangsak has appealed to the people of the city to "pay a little more" for rice in order to help the farmers. It is a reasonable request on behalf of our brethren on the farms.

While stressing improvement of living conditions and of income in the rural areas, the prime minister has certainly not forgotten the poor people of the city. He has also taken action to deal with the slums. Since there are about 300 slum areas, it is impossible to do everything at once for all the slum residents. At the same time the prime minister has also proposed decentralisation of industries to the rural areas so that the people there do not have to flock into Bangkok for jobs. However, the government cannot succeed in its objectives without understanding and cooperation from the people of Bangkok. Yes, it's time we who have had most of the cake in the past made some sacrifice.

SOUTHERN TERRORISTS PLACE BOMB ON TRAIN

BK030055Y Bangkok POST in English 3 Jan 78 p 1 BK

[Text] A time bomb and propaganda leaflets of the Pattani United Liberation 'Black December' Organisation [PULO] were found under a second-class sleeper seat of the Sungai Golok-Bangkok Express upon arrival at Hua Lamphong railway station early yesterday morning. According to a police quartermaster explosives expert, the bomb was timed to go off at 1 a.m. earlier in the morning, when the train reached Chumphon Province. However, due to a mechanical failure, the bomb was not detonated. The expert said that the bomb was locally made by tying six dry battery cells together with wire connected to an alarm clock and about 200 grammes of explosives packed in a milk can.

Shortly after 7:15 a.m. immediately after the train had arrived, a cleaner found an airline bag under the seat of a sleeping compartment and alerted railway police, suspecting it was a bomb. Along with the time bomb, police found 87 leaflets of the Black December group, an extremist wing of the PULO, written in Thai and the southern Yawi dialect.

VOPT REVIEWS 'REVOLUTIONARY' ACHIEVEMENTS OVER PAST YEAR

BK301057Y Voice of the People of Thailand [Clandestine] in Thai to Thailand 1000 GMT 29 Dec 77 BK

[Article: "The Revolutionary Forces Are Growing, the Enemy Is Becoming Confused and Weak"]

[Summary] "The year 1977 was one in which the people's struggle for independence, democracy and social justice developed more broadly and vigorously, while the enemy became confused and writhed furiously amid the powerful encirclement of the people. In the past year the Thai people's liberation armed forces and the people in the rural areas have responded to the appeal of the Communist Party of Thail and by initiating more attacks against the enemy." They have constantly been victorious, raising the level of their fighting strategy and techniques and destroying more of the enemy than ever before.

New areas of armed struggle have been established in many regions. The people's bases have been enlarged and fortified, making them reliable supports for the patriotic and democracy-loving forces." People from every circle have participated in the revolutionary tasks in the rural areas.

"During the past year the popular struggle for national independence, democracy and due rights and freedom has been waged ceaselessly in the areas controlled by the reactionary administration. Since the bloody 6 October coup the people who cherish their freedom and national independence have employed various forms of struggle to bravely oppose fascist power and the nation-selling activities of the big feudalists and the fascist warlords."

The fascist and reactionary government's decision to prosecute Sutham Saengprathum and his colleagues has been widely criticized by local and world opinion. The press, which has intimidated by various fascist orders issued after the 6 October coup, has struggled to regain its freedom. Workers and farmers have struggled in every region of the country, while the students and teachers who were deprived of their academic and other freedoms have struggled to regain them. The people have also demanded that the government solve the high cost of living. In the past year struggles by Thai people abroad against the fascist dictatorial power of the big feudalists and the fascist warlords and demands for the release of Sutham and his friends have taken place repeatedly.

"The wave of patriotic and democracy-loving struggle by the people in the areas controlled by the reactionary administration and by the Thai people abroad and the armed struggle waged by the people in the rural areas have been powerfully coordinated, becoming a vast national-democratic united front. The decision of political parties, organizations and patriotic and democracy-loving people in various circles to establish the committee for the coordination of patriotic and democracy-loving forces has indicated the growth of such forces, which will further expand the united front.

"In the past year the reactionary ruling class-the enemy of the country and the people-has been encountering various forms of confusion, division and decay. The Sa-ngat-Thanin government's policy of selling out the country, serving the United States, being hostile toward neighboring countries, and practicing fascist dictatorship by totally depriving people of their basic rights has been condemned by the public everywhere. The ruling class's position at home and in the international arena has been isolated."

The abortive coup led by warlord Chalat Hiranyasiri in March 1977 is an example of the division within the ranks of the ruling class. The Sa-ngat-Thanin government's fascist and traitorous policies brought severe economic and social setbacks to the country. Feeling that this endangered their ruling power, the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys staged the coup on 20 October to evict the Thanin government and installed warlord Kriangsak at the head of the government. Since assuming power, the Kriangsak government has loyally served the U.S. imperialists and has followed a nation-selling policy. It has maintained various fascist orders and laws to intimidate the people. It will not lift the curfew, will not allow gatherings of more than five people and persistently continues to prosecute Sutham and his colleagues and the suppression of the rural people. Being the representative of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism, the Kriangsak government will never be able to solve the problem of the people's hardships and the problems of the country.

"The divisions and conflicts within the ruling class will continue to worsen, no matter how hard warlord Kriangsak tries to compromise. By implementing a policy which is strongly against the wishes of the people and the interest of the country, the Kriangsak government will certainly be exposed, condemned and opposed more vigorously by the people and will encounter insoluble difficulties in all spheres. The situation in the past year is paralleled by a passage in Comrade Mit Samanan's article marking the 35 founding anniversary of the CPT, which says: The revolutionary forces are expanding, the enemy is becoming confused and weakened; if people unite more tightly, consolidate into a vast national-democratic united front, resolutely wage the struggle, spread the armed struggle to encompass the entire rural area of the country and coordinate with other forms of struggle in areas controlled by the enemy's administration, the people will be able to topple the government which represents imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism, seize state power for the people and construct a new independent, democratic and prosperous Thailand."

VOPT ASSESSES OUTLOOK FOR 1978 AS 'EXCELLENT'

BK021320Y Voice of the People of Thailand [Clandestine] in Thai to Thailand 1000 GMT 30 Dec 77 BK

[Editorial: "New Year -- A Step Toward A New Victory"]

[Text] We are now entering the new year of 1978 under an excellent situation. The people's revolutionary movement obviously grew bigger during the past year. News of the people's victories on various battlefronts has constituted a resounding victory song, greatly encouraging the people. On the path of this victory, we jubilantly welcome the new year with our confidence in a new victory which awaits us. During the past year, the ruling class plunged into a state of uneasiness, contradiction and instability.

The fascist country-selling Sa-Ngat-Thanin government, which arrogantly ruled and plundered the country after the 6 October bloody incident, thought that through the brutal suppression and massacre of the people and total deprivation of the people's democratic rights, it could win over the people and destroy the people's revolutionary forces so that it would be able to remain in power. However, its dream was broken within a short period of time, and its country-selling, antipopular, fascist and dictatorial nature was later exposed to the people's eyes.

The Sa-Ngat-Thanin government faced the problems of grave competition and rift among its members while being strongly encircled and attacked by the people both inside and outside the country. Finally, it was swept into the trash can of history.

To save the ruling class' unstable administration, warlord Kriangsak, the U.S. imperialist top-ranking henchman who staged the coup in compliance with his master's instruction, has come up with all kinds of deceptive schemes to thwart the people's struggle and dissolve and destroy the people's revolutionary forces. Is it possible that warlord Kriangsak, who had colluded with the big feudalists to create the 6 October bloody inhumane incident, tore up the constitution, destroyed the few democratic rights which were left for the people to enjoy, restored the fascist dictatorship in all aspects and cooperated with the Thanin clique to commit many new crimes, can turn to be a supporter of democracy and a national unity seeker in one night? This is not at all a difficult question for the people to answer.

Warlord Kriangsak, who has established a long record of crimes against the country and the people, can never cover the fact that he only serves the imperialists, feudalists and bureaucratic capitalist despite his attempt to apply manykinds of tricks to deceive the people. The people have come to realize that the Kriangsak government is indeed their immediate enemy. The Kriangsak government has been vigorously striving to defend the interests of the imperialists, feudalists and bureaucratic capitalists and openly destroying the interests of the country and people through various deceptive schemes.

On the one hand warlord Kriangsak, the cunning henchman of the U.S. imperialists, is trying to get youths, schoolchildren, students and people to forget the 6 October bloody incident during which his clique had brutally massacred youths, students and people and to cooperate with his government. On the other hand, warlord Kriangsak has been persistently trying to prove the guilt of Sutham Saengprathum and his colleagues without paying any attention to local and world opinion. This shows his cunning nature. Youths, students and the people will never forget their indignation over the bloody 6 October incident. The blood debt incurred during that incident must definitely be settled.

Warlord Kriangsak's combination of deception and suppression schemes reflects the fact that suppression measures along cannot destroy the people's revolutionary spirit and the fact that the ruling class is struggling with its back to the wall since its administration is fast approaching its doom. In contrast to the reactionaries, the longer the people struggle, the stronger they become. No reactionary clique can hinder the people's revolutionary struggle.

We jubilantly witnessed the growth of people's revolutionary power during 1977. The Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] which has had a glorious 35-year history of struggle, has been tested and tempered and has developed amid the vigorous revolutionary struggle. It represents a political power which acts as the core of the revolutionary struggle of the Thai people. It has accumulated rich fighting experiences and is respected by the vast revolutionary people and the patriotic and democracy-loving people.

The OPT-led armed struggle of the people in the rural areas has developed another step. The Thai people's liberation armed force and other people's armed forces have grown stronger and bigger amid the struggle and have become invincible forces. The guerrilla zones the strongholds and the people's state power have covered wider areas and have become steadily stronger. Meanwhile, the various forms of struggle waged by people in areas controlled by reactionary administration and by people abroad have developed in scope.

The solidarity and cooperation against the common enemy among the people of various strata as well as among political parties, organizations and patriotic and democracy-loving people both at home and abroad have developed another step ahead. The establishment of the committee for the coordination of patriotic and democracy-loving forces, which demonstrates that the national-democratic united front has advanced a step further, has been widely welcomed and supported by people of various strata.

The people's victories and unity during the past year have provided tremendous moral encouragement to the people and have badly shaken the reactionary, fascist and traitorous ruling class' administration. In a situation in which the people have become increasingly conscious and the people's revolutionary movement have grown progressively bigger, the Kriangsak government's suppression and deception schemes must be appropriately countered and fully exposed. The Kriangsak government will certainly never be able to relax in peace as it wishes.

On the occasion which we welcome 1978 under such a favorable situation, we must unite more closely, further spread our cooperation with and assistance of each other, wage appropriate forms of struggle, expose the Kriangsak government's fascist, traitorous and reactionary nature in order to destroy all of its deception schemes, support and expand the people's war and accelerate our various fields of activities in order to hasten the enemy's doomsday and to grasp new and greater victories.

Long live the great unity of the people! Victory must belong to the people!

BRIEFS

PLIGHT OF BURMESE REFUGEES.—Several groups of Burmese granted asylum in Thailand have asked the United Nations and other international organisations here to help ease the plight of more than 6,000 Burmese refugees here, sources said. The Burmese have appealed to these organisations for recognition of their status as "refugees" similar to Indochinese refugees who are now in Thailand and are seeking the same rights regarding food, living quarters and refugee camps. The sources also said that the Burmese have submitted similar appeals to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) headquarters in Geneva. Many of the displaced Burmese have received assistance from individuals, Christian churches and other charity groups, but on a humanitarian basis. They fled to Thailand because of political conflicts and economic problems in Burma. According to the sources, the UN used to provide aid to various Burmese groups but the practice was halted since the Thai government does not recognize the status of these refugees, but views them as persons who illegally entered the country. [Excerpt]

[Bangkok POST in English 19 Dec 77 p 1 BK]

ITALIAN TAXATION AGREEMENT--On 22 December Thailand and Italy signed the convention on the avoidance of double taxation of income. The Thai deputy foreign minister signed on behalf of the Thai Government and the Italian ambassador to Thailand for the Italian Government. The convention will be effective from the date of the exchanges of instruments of ratification between the two countries. [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 23 Dec 77 BK]

ENVOY RETURNS FROM PHNOM PENH; CAMBODIAN ENVOY DEPARTS

OWO31623Y Hanoi VNA in English 1610 GMT 3 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 3--Tran Xuan Man, charge d'affaires a.i. of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and all the staff of the Vietnamese Embassy in Cambodia returned here from Phnom Penh today. They were met at the airport by Deputy Foreign Minister Hoang Luong and many officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Ambassador Sok Kheang and all the staff of the Cambodian Embassy in Vietnam left here yesterday. They were seen off at the airport by Nguyen Dang Khoa, deputy director of the Second Department for Asia of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry.

Earlier, on January 1, Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Xuan had invited Ambassador Sok Kheang to his ministry and had a cordial conversation with the Cambodian diplomat.

LAO FOREIGN MINISTER CITED ON SRV-CAMBODIAN BORDER ISSUE

OWO31629Y Hanoi VNA in English 1612 GMT 3 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 3--Phoun Sipaseut today said he believed that "in a spirit of fraternal friendship, Vietnam and Cambodia will find a fine solution to the border issue," reports VNA's correspondent in Vientiane.

Phoun Sipaseut, member of the Political Bureau of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, vice premier and foreign minister, expressed this belief when receiving Nguyen Si Hoat, charge d'affaires a.i. of Vietnam in Laos, who has handed him a copy of the Vietnamese Government's December 31, 1977, statement on the Vietnam-Cambodia border issue.

In a cordial conversation, Phoun Sipaseut said that the incidents between Vietnam and Cambodia were very regrettable, for they seriously hurt the existing great friendly relations which the two nations have built and fostered with their own flesh and blood throughout decades in their struggle against the common enemies of the three fraternal neighbouring people.

As a sincere friend and close comrade of the people of Vietnam and Cambodia, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the entire multinational Lao people eagerly hope that the two parties and the two governments of Vietnam and Cambodia will quickly meet to find a peaceful solution to the border issue between the two countries on the principle of respect for each other's territorial sovereignty.

Phoun Sipaseut expressed his belief that in a spirit of fraternal friendship, Vietnam and Cambodia would find a fine solution to the border issue and would consolidate the friendly relations between the two countries, in the immediate as well as long-term interests of each country, in accordance with the ardent aspiration of the Lao people, and with the desire of peace-loving people in Southeast Asia and elsewhere in the world.

HANOI RADIO CAMBODIAN SERVICE ON HISTORY OF SRV-CAMBODIA TIES

BK040900Y Hanoi International Service in Cambodian 0400 GMT 4 Jan 78 BK

[Unattributed commentary: "Nobody Can Destroy the Great Bonds of Friendship and Militant Solidarity Between the Peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia"]

[Text] The peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos have been historically and geographically bound together since time immemorial.

This link was even further strengthened at the end of the 19th century when the French colonialists invaded the three countries and subjected them to their domination. This constituted a factor of historical significance in the struggle waged by the peoples of the three countries against the French colonialists and, later on, against the U.S. imperialists. During the course of their respective struggles for independence and freedom, the peoples of the three countries became increasingly aware of the great significance of the bonds of militant solidarity, mutual assistance and reciprocal support among the three nations.

Coming together through a protracted struggle against the common enemies, the three nations contracted a great bond of friendship and militant solidarity that no enemy can destroy. In the fight against the French from 1945 to 1954, Indochina became a battlefield in which the bonds of militant solidarity between the three nations were highlighted; many Vietnamese cadres and combatants sacrificed their lives on Cambodian soil in the struggle against the common enemy.

In the struggle for national salvation waged against the United States by the three nations, this great bond of friendship and militant solidarity became one of the main factors which determined the victory of each country's revolution. The peoples of the three countries shared with each other virtually everything—from a grain of rice and a handful of salt to a tiny piece of dried fish. The peoples of the three countries have thus shared weal and woe for a very long time.

Chairman [prathean] Ho Chi Minh said: "The close sentiments born in combat in the struggle against the common enemy, the aggressor U.S. imperialists, form a strong basis for expanding the friendly relationship and fraternal cooperation between our two countries at present as well as in the future."

The Cambodian leaders themselves have acknowledged this historical truth. At a 27 December 1974 banquet honoring the visiting delegation of the National Liberation Front and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam, Khieu Samphan, then deputy prime minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, national defense minister and commander in chief of the Cambodian People's National Liberation Armed Forces, and now chairman of the State Presidium of Democratic Cambodia, expressed profound thanks to Vietnam for wholeheartedly supporting and assisting the Cambodian people's struggle.

Khieu Samphan said: "The victory of our Cambodian people cannot be separated from the support and assitance of the Vietnamese people."

The joint communique between Vietnam and Cambodia signed by Truong Chinh and Khieu Samphan in Hanoi on 1 April 1974 also emphasized: "While upholding the spirit of independence, sovereignty and self-determination, the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples, as one body, have supported and assisted each other in the pure spirit of internationalism, (?resulting) in the great bonds of militant solidarity and friendship between Vietnam and Cambodia, and have turned these bonds of solidarity and friendship into an extremely great force.

"The Cambodian nation and people highly appreciate the resolute, comprehensive assistance that the Vietnamese nation and people have accorded them so far and will accord them in the future. The Cambodian side expresses deep thanks for this precious assistance and support."

More recently, in a message of 30 January 1975 addressed to the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Workers' Party, the Cambodian Communist Party Central Committee's Executive Committee clearly pointed out: "The KCP and the Cambodian people and the VWP and the Vietnamese people have been united by sweat and blood and by the indestructible bonds of militant solidarity and fraternal friendship.

This is a glaring truth. Unfortunately, Cambodia has run counter to this truth. More serious still, it has used armed forces to launch ferocious attacks against the Vietnamese people. It has slanderously stated that Vietnam has committed aggression, interference and even coup attempts against Cambodia and, using this as grounds, has broken diplomatic relations with Vietnam. This dishonest act has further deteriorated the relations between the two countries.

Even though the two brothers have split because of Cambodia's provocations, Vietnam continues to search for a means to solidarity. The SRV Government statement dated 31 December 1977 once again proposed that the sooner the two sides get together and talk--at whatever level--the better, in order to join hands in settling the border problem between the two countries in a spirit of friendship and solidarity. The Vietnamese people are convinced that the current deplorable situation is only a mass of black clouds which will certainly be dispelled.

AFP: 'SOURCES' REPORT SRV TROOPS CONTROL ENTIRE 'PARROT'S BEAK'

BK040308Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0301 GMT 4 Jan 78 BK

[Excerpts] Bangkok, Jan 4 (AFP) -- Vietnamese troops are in control of the entire "parrot's beak" in Cambodia, well informed military sources in Bangkok said today. If this control of the Parrot's Beak is confirmed, it would mean Vietnamese units, several divisions according to Cambodia, were about 100 kilometres (60 miles) southeast of Phnom Penh.

AFP ON ARMY PAPER REPORTS ON MILITARY MANEUVERS

BK040911Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0834 GMT 4 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Hanoi, Jan. 4 (AFP) -- Ambiguous accounts of military manoeuvres published over the last 3 days by the Vietnamese army daily QUAN DOI NHAN DAN have puzzled observers.

The army daily's special correspondent did not state where the manoeuvres took place. As in manoeuvres all over the world, they were between "red" and "blue" troops. The reporter said these manoeuvres lasted 3 days in December. He said two columns were involved, including a regiment of the 312th Division, famous for its part in the fall of Dien Bien Phu. This regiment was followed by units of the Mekong Corps and the Song Lam Division. The reporter said artillery and tanks took part, but did not mention planes.

He said the site chosen was new and difficult. The troops were as eager as though it were a real battle, the war correspondent said, adding that the "enemy" blue troops managed to launch counter-attacks during the exercises. The QUAN DOI NHAN DAN reporter described the capture of a bridge after crossing swamps and a lightly wooded area. This description strangely resembled the Neak Luong region, a key point opening up the road to Phnom Penh.

The report filled nine columns altoghether. The correspondent cited the example of a young recruit from Nghe Tinh Province, in the north of Vietnam, who had been granted leave to visit his sick mother and rejoined his unit via Ho Chi Minh City about 100 kilometres (60 miles) from the "Parrot's Beak" where the Vietnamese-Cambodian fighting began.

TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED IN SOFIA 29 DEC

OW301527Y Hanoi VNA in English 1515 GMT 30 Dec 77 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA December 30--A protocol on goods exchange and payments between Vietnam and Bulgaria for 1978 was signed in Sofia yesterday by Nguyen Van Dao and P. Bashikarov, vice minister of foreign trade of Vietnam and Bulgaria respectively.

The same day, Nguyen Van Dao was received by S. Dulbokov, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Bulgarian subcommission of the Bulgaria-Vietnam joint commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

LAO EDUCATION DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT 3 JAN

OWO 31645Y Hanoi VNA in English 1603 GMT 3 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 3--A delegation of the Lao Ministry of Education, Sports and Religious Affairs led by Vice Minister Visian Bounhaksa visited Vietnam from November 26 to January 3.

The Lao delegation paid respects at the Ho Chi Minh Mauscleum and visited the house of the late president. It was cordially received by Minister of Education Nguyen Thi Binh. Vice Minister Ho True and other senior officials of the ministry swapped notes with the delegation on educational work.

The delegation inspected educational facilities in Hanoi, Haiphong and Ho Chi Minh City, and in the provinces of Ha Nam Ninh, Hai Hung, Ha Son Binh, Quang Ninh and Vi Phy.

LEADERS GREET BURMESE COUNTERPARTS ON NATIONAL DAY

OWO 31647Y Hanoi VNA in English 1605 GMT 3 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 3--President Ton Duc Thang, Premier Pham Van Dong and Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh today sent warm congratulations to their Burmese counterparts on the 30th independence day of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma (January 4).

In his message to Chairman U Ne Win, President Ton Duc Thang said: "On the 30th independence day of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, on behalf of the Vietnamese people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and in my own name, I would like to extend my warm congratulations to Your Excellency and the Burmese people.

"May the friendly relations between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the socialist republic of the Union of Burma be constantly consolidated and developed!"

He expressed the wish for the Burmese people's prosperity and happiness and for Chairman U Ne Win's good health.

In his message to Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha, Premier Pham Van Dong said: "I wish the Burmese people prosperity and happiness. May the friendly relations between our two governments and two peoples be constantly strengthened and developed."

NHAN DAN Article

OWO40749Y Hanoi VNA in English 0733 GMT 4 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 4--The founding of the Union of Burma 29 years ago began a new chapter in the history of that country," writes NHAN DAN today in an article entitled "Thirty Years on the Path of Independence and Freedom".

The paper says: "After more than a century under colonialist domination, the then newly independent Burma had to cope with many difficulties, but the Burmese people were determined to defend their revolution and take the country forward. In March 1962, the Revolutionary Council came to power and many economic and social reforms were started".

"Over the past thirty years, the Burmese people have recorded remarkable achievements in their endeavour to build a developed economy and culture. Burma pursues a policy of positive neutrality, and is opposed to imperialism, old and neo-colonialism, and racism. It has established economic and cultural relations with the socialist and developing countries, and supports the forces of genuine peace, independence and neutrality in Southeast Asia".

NHAN DAN goes on: "Between the Vietnamese people and the Burmese people there exists a long-standing friendship. In 1959, the Burmese Government and people gave a warm welcome to President Ho Chi Minh during his visit to Burma. The Vietnamese people, in their struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, had the support of the Burmese Government and people. As a reflection of the development of this friendship, the relations established between the two countries in 1958 were raised to ambassadorial level. Ever since they have developed more and more".

NHAN DAN says: "The Burmese people are celebrating their 30th national day when great changes are taking place in Southeast Asia. The bankruptcy of U.S. neo-colonialism in this region has created favourable conditions for peoples here to become masters of their countries and their destinies. The friendship among the peoples in Southeast Asia has a good chance to develop."

"In its relations with other countries in Southeast Asia, the Vietnamese Government has persisted in a policy of friendship on the basis of respect for one another's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, of non-aggression and non-interference, and of equality, mutual benefit and peaceful co-existence", NHAN DAN points out.

In conclusion, the paper expresses the Vietnamese people's joy at the success of the relations between Vietnam and Burma over the past thirty years, and stresses that the stand of the Vietnamese Government and people is to further promote and consolidate this friendship.

LEADERS GREET CUBAN COUNTERPARTS ON NATIONAL DAY

OW311611Y Hanoi VNA in English 1549 GMT 31 Dec 77 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA December 31--Vietnamese party and state leaders today sent a joint message of congratulations to Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State, and president of the Council of Ministers; and Blas Roca Calderio, president of the Cuban National Assembly of People's Power, on Cuba's national day (Jan 1st).

The message, signed by President Ton Duc Thang; Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Truong Chinh, chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee; and Prime Minister Pham Van Dong, said:

"On the glorious national day of the Republic of Cuba, on behalf of the Vietnamese people, the Communist Party of Vietnam, the National Assembly and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and in our own names, we wish to extend to you, the fraternal Cuban people, the Communist Party of Cuba, the National Assembly of People's Power, and the Government of the Republic of Cuba our warmest congratulations.

"Over the past 19 years, under the correct leadership of the glorious Communist Party of Cuba headed by esteemed Comrade Fidel Castro, the Cuban people, upholding their tradition of indomitable struggle and their spirit of revolutionary offensive, have won many splendid successes in all fields. In spite of all schemes of aggression and sabotage and all policies of encirclement and blockade of the U.S. imperialists and their agents, the Republic of Cuba has become stronger and stronger.

The strengthening and perfection of the system of proletarian dictatorship and the great and effective efforts of the entire party and people of Cuba for a successful implementation of the 1976-1980 5-year planare extremely important factors which have unceasingly taken socialist construction in Cuba forward and have transformed Cuba into an inviolable outpost of socialism and a banner of struggle against imperialism, for independence and freedom in the Western Hemisphere, thus making worthy contributions to the revolutionary cause of the world's peoples.

"These great achievements, coupled with Cuba's principled revolutionary standpoint, and her selfless and devoted support and assistance to her brothers and friends in the world have constantly heightened the international prestige of socialist Cuba.

"The enormous and proud successes of the heroic Cuban people have strongly encouraged our people to advance rapidly, vigorously and steadily to socialism. The whole-hearted support and precious assistance Cuba has been providing the Vietnamese revolution will forever be engraved in the minds of the Vietnamese people.

"We take this opportunity to reiterate once again the firm support of our party, government and people to the construction and defence of socialist Cuba as well as to the pure proletarian international standpoint of the Communist Party, Government and people of Cuba. We are elated to see that the militant solidarity and fraternal cooperation between Vietnam and Cuba, tested in struggle, has been constantly strengthened and developed in accordance with the interests of our two nations and of the world revolution.

"We sincerely wish the fraternal Cuban people many more and still greater achievements in implementing the resolution of the first congress of the Communist Party of Cuba and the 1976-1980 5-year economic plan. We wish to convey to you our greetings of close fraternity, and our warmest congratulations on the occasion of the new year."

Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh has sent a message of congratulations to Cuban Foreign Minister I.O. Malmierca Peolio.

Giap, Xuan Thuy Attend Reception

OWO 20859Y Hanoi VNA in English 0823 GMT 2 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 2--A reception was given here this afternoon by Melba Hernandez, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba to Vietnam, on the anniversary of the liberation of Cuba.

Present were General Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and vice premier; Xuan Thuy, secretary of the party CC, vice premier and general secretary of the National Assembly Standing Committee; Hoang Quoc Viet, member of the party CC and president of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front; Hoang Tung, member of the party CC and president of the Vietnam-Cuba Friendship Association; Nguyen Van Kinh, vice chairman of the External Relations Commission of the party CC; Hoang Bich Son, vice minister for foreign affairs; Major General Vu Xuan Chiem, vice minister of national defence; and many other party leaders, ministers, vice ministers and high-ranking officers of the Vietnam People's Army. Foreign ambassadors and charges d'affaires in Hanoi attended the cocktail.

Toasts were raised to the glorious anniversary of the fraternal Cuban people, the great successes of the peoples the two countries in socialist construction and the splendid development of the relations of friendship and militant solidarity between the two countries.

NHAN DAN Editorial

OW310843Y Hanoi VNA in English 0725 GMT 31 Dec 77 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, December 31--The past 19 years have seen Cubans fighting bravely and working creatively to make the banner of freedom fly more proudly over their country, says NHAN DAN today. In its editorial on Cuba's national day (January 1st), the newspaper of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam writes: "No amount of scheming by U.S. imperialism and no difficulties can stop the advance of the Cuban revolution. Cuba, once an underdeveloped agricultural country, has become a socialist country with a firm economy, big defence potential, and advanced culture. The cause of socialist construction is developing incessantly."

NHAN DAN goes on: "The life of the working people, true masters of the country, is secure. A sense of collective mastery is acting as the driving force behind untiring efforts by the people who, emulating in production and thrift, have attained higher and higher productivity and output."

The paper reviews the main achievements of Cuba and says: "The Cuban people are advancing with a revolutionary spirit and, to celebrate the 19th anniversary of the liberation of their country, have recorded brilliant successes. Their achievements this year have further proved the great vitality of their revolution.

NHAN DAN notes that the Cuban people have combined their great patriotism with a pure sense of proletarian internationalism by providing devoted assistance to other people fighting for independence and freedom.

The paper says: "The profound changes in all fields of activity in Cuba have been brought about by a people who resolutely rose up to shape their own destinies under the banners of national independence and socialism, and these changes give expression to the excellence of the new system. The success of the Cuban people at home and abroad have strengthened the first worker-peasant state in the Western Hemisphere, and enhanced the prestige of the Republic of Cuba in the international arena."

"The Vietnamese people rejoice at the great achievements of the Cuban people," NHAN DAN says. "We firmly believe that under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba headed by esteemed Comrade Fidel Castro, the fraternal Cuban people will make more glorious exploits in the new year."

PHAM VAN DONG GREETS 'ARAFAT ON PLO ANNIVERSARY

OW311601Y Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 31 Dec 77 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, December 31--Premier Pham Van Dong today sent a message of greetings to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, on the 13th anniversary of Palestine's armed struggle (January 1, 1965).

The message says: "On behalf of the people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and in my own name, I would like to convey my warmest greetings to you, the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the heroic people and liberation fighters of Palestine.

"The Vietnamese people have followed the Palestinian people's persistent struggle with deep sympathy and admiration. Over the past 13 years, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the people and the liberation armed forces of Palestine have overcome many difficulties and hardships, unceasingly matured and achieved increasing success, making active contributions to the common struggle of the Arab people against the imperialists and Israeli Zionists for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

"The Palestine Liberation Organization has been recognized as the only authentic representatives of the Palestinian people by the not aligned countries and the international community. It has the right to participate in all attempts to bring an equal and stable peace to the Middle East. This cannot be denied by any imperialist and reactionary farce.

"Being a close comrade-in-arms of the Palestinian people, the people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam support the Palestinian and Arab peoples' struggle to regain all occupied territories to recover the Palestinian peoples' basic national rights, including the right to return to their homeland, the right to self-determination and the right to an independent nation.

"Although the imperialists and Israeli aggressors have sought to divide the Arab countries, to carry out a separate solution aimed at opposing the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, the Vietnamese people firmly believe that, with their iron determination and their indomitable spirit and closely uniting with the peoples of other Arab countries, the peoples of socialist countries and progressive people around the world, the Palestinian people will surely overcome all difficulties and win final victory.

"May the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship between the people of Vietnam and Palestine be consolidated and develop with every passing day!"

NHAN DAN Article

BK021516Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0'400 GMT 1 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Today, the Palestinian people are celebrating the 13th anniversary of their glorious revolution day. On 1 January 1965 the Fatah Organization, the core force of the PLO, initiated an armed struggle against Israeli aggression. On this occasion NHAN DAN today carries an article praising the just struggle of the heroic Palestinian people.

The paper says: The Palestinian issue, first of all, reflects a just struggle of a people whose fatherland has been taken away by force and who have resolutely struggled for their inviolable national rights. On the other hand, it represents aggression against Palestine by the Zionist expansionist forces who have plotted to annihilate the Palestinian nation, as well as the plot of U.S.-led imperialism, through the Israeli state, to control the Middle East and to repulse and defeat the anti-imperialist liberation movement of the Arab nations in general.

The Palestinian people's struggle for their existence has become the banner of the Arab people's struggle against imperialism. The Palestinian people's right to shape their own destiny and, to a considerable extent, the destinies of the Arab people in fighting for real independence and freedom, who have the support of all Arab patriots and of the whole of progressive mankind.

After condemning U.S.-led imperialism for plotting to split the Arab nations and isolate Palestine, the paper affirms: The Palestinian people are not isolated. The Arab people are able to distinguish between friend and foe. The national united Arab front against the Zionist enemy and imperialist schemes, which was recently founded in Tripoli, has issued an appeal to the entire Arab community--both peoples and states--to provide support and economic, financial, political and military assistance for the Palestinian people, represented by the PLO, in the struggle for their national rights--the right to return to their fatherland, the right to self-determination and the right to found an independent state for themselves.

No aggression, however ruthless, and no divisive scheme, however dangerous, can hamper the radiant, just cause of such an heroic people as the Palestinian people who have the sympathy and support of all progressive mankind.

TON DUC THANG SENDS CONDOLENCES ON DEATH OF KUWAITI AMIR

OW031649Y Hanoi VNA in English 1609 GMT 3 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 3--President Ton Duc Thang of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has sent the following message of condolences to Amir Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah of Kuwait: "On learning of the death of Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Sabah as-Salim as-Sabah, I would like to extend my deep condolences to Your Majesty, the Government and the people of Kuwait and the royal family."

NHAN DAN COMMENTS ON U.S. - JAPAN AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROBLEMS

BK011034Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[Text] Under the title "The Unpalatable Dish of U.S. Beef," today's NHAN DAN says: A strong wave of indignation is rising in Japan over the United States' demand that Japan increase its import quotas for prime beef used in hotels from 1,000 to 10,000 tons and for oranges, grapes and fruit juices from 1,000 to 50,000 tons. The United States has also demanded that Japan abolish controls on the importation of fresh oranges and tangerines during certain periods of the year.

In the Diet, five opposition parties have urged the Japanese Government not to import more agricultural products. Many Liberal Democratic Party assemblymen, having interests in agriculture, have met Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda to voice their protest of a number of compromises made by the government to the United States.

On 27 December about 5,000 Japanese peasants staged a demonstration in front of the Ministry of Agriculture to vehemently protest these compromises. On the same day about 6,000 representatives of agricultural cooperatives held a meeting at the Hibiya open concert site in Tokyo, to demand that the government reject the unreasonable demands of the United States. They later took to the streets, marching past the panese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the American Embassy.

Due to increasing agricultural imports, the number of Japanese farmers and peasants has dropped by about 51 percent over the past 15 years or so. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has just revealed that the population of the agricultural sector has increased at the fairly rapid rate of 3 percent per annum and that farmland has continually been taken over the by industrial and housing construction sectors. According to the ministry, thes are the two factors contributing to economic recession.

At a meeting held by the association of Japanese farmers and peasants in early December, Comrade (Yoichi Ishikawa), deputy head of the Japanese Communist Party Secretariat, severely criticized the U.S.-dependent agricultural policy of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. He called on all the peasants to unite and expand their struggle to upgrade agriculture into a key national industry.

NHAN Pan says in conclusion: According to many international observers, the first year of Prime Minister Fukuda's term of office has only brought meager results in both the domestic and foreign affairs fields. The fierce and complex trade contradictions between the United States and Japan can hardly be solved in a short period of time. This is a wrestling bout in which both opponents closely watch for any weakness in the other's defences. The Fukuda government has appointed another delegation of four Diet members to go to the United States early next month to bargain about the beef issue with the United States. What an unpalatable dish that U.S. beef is!

RADIO REPORTS OKINAWAN PROTEST OF TRANSFER OF B-52'S

OWO10420Y Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 31 Dec 77 OW

[Text] The Okinawa provincial council Thursday handed over a statement to the U.S. military command in Japan protesting against the transfer of B-52's from Guam to Kadena Airbase, Okinawa. There are 60 U.S. military bases and 53,000 American soldiers stationed in Okinawa.

NHAN DAN COMMENTS ON PLEBISCITE IN CHILE

OWO20804Y Hanoi VNA in English 0739 GMT 2 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 2--"There can be no freedom at fascist gunpoint," writes NHAN DAN today in a commentary on the plebiscite on human rights prepared by the Chilean dictatorship for January 4. The paper says that this will be just another trick, because the guns of the fascists will help to obtain the desired results.

It continues: "However hard Pinochet and his clique try to disguise their real nature, their brutal acts exposed them to wide public condemnation. Over the past four years, they have butchered tens of thousands of patriots and put tens of thousands of others in jail. The essence of this regime is repression and injustice. This regime, rigged up by U.S. neocolonialism, is against the people and, as such, is despised by people of conscience in Chile and other parts of the world."

NHAN DAN continues, "In Chile, democratic liberties have been abolished and a constant threat hangs over the working people. But Chile is also ablaze with the indignation of the people. The Pinochet junta, though backed by Washington, is seriously isolated at home and abroad."

After quoting Luis Corvalan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Chile, as saying that people in Chile and all over the world have seen that the plebiscite will have no legal or political value, the paper says: "Like Washington's 'human rights' campaign, this 'plebiscite' trick of Pinochet fools nobody."

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON STRENGTHENING ECONOMY IN NEW YEAR

BK011610Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[NHAN DAN 1 January editorial: "Concentrate Forces Nationwide To Effect a Great Change in the National Economy"]

[Text] Following the total victory of the anti-U.S. resistance, the Vietnamese revolution has shifted to a new stage. Our party has called on our entire people and army to shift their revolutionary heroism from the national salvation struggle to carrying out peaceful labor, building socialism, and building a new life. The fourth party congress has endorsed the program of the socialist revolution aimed at building our country into a wealthy and powerful country. The second and third party Central Committee plenums have issued guidelines on agricultural development and economic and cultural development in our country within the framework of the present 5-year state plan and this year's state plan.

Over the past 2 years and more, our national revolution has progressed steadily on the path of socialism. The entire party, people and army have courageously overcome many difficulties and made great achievements. The wounds of war are healing, and agriculture, industry, transport and communications have been restored.

The building of the material and technical foundations of socialism is being stepped up, and culture, education and science are being promoted. In the south, transformation has started. The forces of socialism have been strengthened in all respects. The strength of the proletarian dictatorship and defense potentials have been constantly reinforced and are being developed more strongly than ever. The revolutionary movement of the masses has spread to many places. This situation is good for the revolution and encouraging factors have emerged. The ascending posture of the revolution is strong. Such is the present important situation in our country, however, that revolutionary progress is always an arduous process. The path to prosperity and a happy life is fraught with obstacles.

Previously, our people, using only their bare hands and responding to the party's appeal, united millions as one into an invincible combat force, and, defying terrorism and massacre, bravely struggled and rose up to overthrow the barbarous ruling yoke of the imperialists. Our army and people used their bare hands from the outset to persevere in their protracted 30-year struggle to defeat the French colonialists and the U.S. imperialists, complete the sacred undertaking of liberating their country and unify their fatherland, thus writing the immortal epics of our people and the other revolutionary peoples throughout the world.

We now have started a great socialist revolution in a country with more than 50 million people, moving from a backward economy with dispersed, small-scale production. Our country has experienced the protracted rule of colonialism and fierce wars. The class struggle in the newly-liberated areas is fierce and complex. Persistence has become our precious tradition. We all must strive to satisfactorily manage the country, build the economy, develop the culture and sciences and build a new life. Just as before when we were beginning the revolutionary war and did not have much experience, we now face many new tasks of national construction and must work and study simultaneously.

The great strength of the Vietnamese revolution lies in the fact that our people have always heightened their spirit of independence, self-strengthening and self-reliance and have struggled to liberate themselves and build a new life. Because our people have been imbued with this spirit, they have constantly developed their initiative and creativity and have used international assistance with a great deal of efficiency.

The achievements scored over the past 2 years and more are the result of the traditional industriousness and revolutionary heroism of all our people and armed forces, which has been reflected in this new battle. We have bravely overcome the grave consequences of the war and neocolonialism and of natural calamities and have launched an offensive against poverty and backwardness. We have been strict with shortcomings, with the negative attitude of a number of people who cannot keep pace with life.

Besides our achievements and progress, we still have to face many difficulties: The material bases of our economy remain small; national income is just sufficient to cover our needs at a low level; grain, food and consumer goods are still insufficient to meet the people's needs; income is still insufficient to cover expenses; exports are still insufficient to cover imports. The economy has not yet accumulated enough rescurces to carry out expanded reproduction; social labor output has not yet been restored to the prewar level; economic organization and management are still fraught with shortcomings; cases of delay and bureaucratism are widespread; the evils of corruption and waste have not yet been checked; and negative manifestations are still prevalent in society.

All our efforts must be directed toward developing all of the national economic sectors, improving all aspects of activity of our party and state, continuing to simultaneously carry out the three revolutions, advancing our people's revolutionary cause, fulfilling the tasks set forth in the 5-year plan, and stabilizing and improving the people's life.

The year of 1978 is crucial to the j-year plan. We must satisfactorily carry out the remaining tasks of the past 2 years, successfully carry out this year's plan, and, at the same time, prepare necessary material conditions for the carrying out of the tasks set for the next 2 years. We must concentrate all our forces nationwide to bring about important changes and tremendous progress in the national economy. This is the general trend of struggle for the entire country and for all sectors, localities, production units and units engaged in specific activities, as well as for all the people.

All active sectors and all individuals must fulfill their duties for the sake of the future of socialism and are responsible for overcoming the difficulties facing the country. The forces and resolve of all the people must be concentrated on solving the urgent economic problems—accelerating agricultural production, including rice, subsidiary food crops, other crops and animal husbandry; developing forestry and fishing; solving at all costs the problems of grain and food, raw materials for industry, and export goods; developing the production of consumer goods; most satisfactorily exploiting all of the capabilities of industry, artisan industry and handicrafts; vigorously developing the production of various important industrial sectors, such as electricity and engineering; most satisfactorily exploiting the capabilities of communications and transportation; improving the circulation and distribution of goods; and overcoming the difficulties facing the people's daily life. We must also accelerate the reorganization of production, streamline production relations in the north, transform and establish production relations in the south, and consolidate production relations nationwide.

We have many favorable conditions to overcome these difficulties. The work force, land, forest, sea, and the existing material and technical bases have not yet been fully utilized and have not yet been satisfactorily exploited. The number of newly-built material and technical bases which will be put to use is fairly large. Exploiting these potentials to the highest degree means producing a considerable amount of additional material wealth. If more than 23 million working-age people work and work the number of days and hours required with high productivity, if more than 5 million hectares of ricefields and other fields cultivated with two or three crops per year, if machinery, equipment and other fixed assets, worth tens of billions of dong, are used to the fullest capacity, and if labor, economic and technical norms are fulfilled or overfulfilled, a new strength will be created to bring changes in the national economy.

Revolution is always the masses! cause. Under party leadership and the state's specific guidance in conformity with the guidelines set forth by the party Central Committee and the National Assembly, let us launch a broad revolutionary movement among the workers, peasants, VPA combatants, revolutionary intellectuals, and cadres in various echelons and sectors; uphold the spirit of self-reliance, the sense of collective ownership and the spirit of self-strengthening; and with our creative labor resolutely change the situation and create a bright new situation!

We will strengthen the new factors. Each production installation, each district, each province, each city, and each sector must work out sound plans and effective measures to most satisfactorily exploit their capabilities, accelerate production, practice thrift, build the material and technical bases of socialism, and improve the people's life. Let us advance the broad revolutionary movement and, through the mass revolutionary movement, improve organizational and guidance work, correct shortcomings, improve cadres, train party members, absorb new forces into the party and state organs, eliminate backward, degenerate elements, and negative manifestations, make a healthy society and build a new way of life and new socialist men!

As he parted from us forever, respected and beloved President Ho taught us: Our working people in the lowlands as well as in the mountainous areas have endured hardships for many generations, have been oppressed and exploited by the feudal and colonialist regime, and have experienced many years of war. However, our people are very heroic, brave, enthusiastic and industrious. Since the founding of the party, our people have always followed the party and have been very loyal to it. The party must formulate very good plans to develop the economy and culture with a view to constantly improving the people's life.

All sectors, all localities, all units--all of us--must carry out in full the resolutions of the Fourth Congress of the Communist Party and Uncle Ho's sacred testament in order to successfully build socialism and achieve prosperity for our country and a happy and civilized life for our people in this and future generations. Let all of us work most satisfactorily and carry out other activities for the sake of our country and people and for our own benefit!

NHAN DAN ARTICLE REVIEWS ACHIEVEMENTS IN 1977

OWO 40945Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Jan 78 OW

[NHAN DAN 1 January article by Nguyen Huu Chinh: "We Are Reviewing the Past Year With Great Enthusiasm and Confidence"]

[Excerpts] Today, looking at the new calendar, we are filled with enthusiasm and confidence. We are enthusiastic because 1977, which is now history, was a year of continued advances made by forces around the world who love peace, democracy, independence and socialism. We are enthusiastic because our country recorded many diplomatic successes in 1977. We are confident because the world situation over the past year eloquently and convincingly testified to the correctness of the international line pursued by our party and state, a line adopted by the fourth party congress.

In 1977 old and new colonialism had to make many retreats. The United States had to sign a new treaty on the Panama Canal. Although this concession did not satisfy many Panamanian patriots, it infuriated many conservative circles in the United States.

In the past year the imperialists and colonialists tried every trick to maintain and expand their influence. They intervened in the internal affairs of many countries in this region and sought to sow disunity within and between these countries. They offered many deceitful solutions to the South African and Rhodesian problems. The Zimbabwean and Rhodesian patriotic fighters answered them by always keeping their guns loaded.

The United States did not seem to worry about the situation in Latin America. It did not see the fierce undercurrents there. The White House also boasted that it actively participated in arranging the Begin-as-Sadat meeting. It thought it had dealt a deadly blow to the solidarity of the more than 100 million Arab people. But no! In face of the sinister acts of the United States and Israeli warmongers, the Arab people's spirit of independence and self-respect shone even brighter.

The truth is that in the past year, in Ethiopia and Mozambique, in the Middle East and Latin America, the patriotic and revolutionary forces maintained their determination to preserve their freedom, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The world situation helped them realize deeply that national independence must be closely linked to socialism, that national independence must finally lead to socialism and that socialism is the only sure guarantee of national independence.

The crisis in the capitalist world's economy has continued. A host of conferences and negotiations among developed capitalist countries on these problems made no progress in 1977. The dollar was left undefended by the U.S. administration in order to apply pressure on the Deutsche mark and the yen. Everywher: we heard the monopoly capitalist cliques complain and fail to resolve their three main problems: capital, markets and technology.

In 1977 the influence of the ruling capitalist circles of many Western countries declined markedly. Their political position became very precarious on many occasions. West Europe had many prolonged governmental crises. Even though President Jimmy Carter visited five continents, he was still unpopular with a great number of Americans. This is very significant. The social and class contradictions in the developed capitalist countries are becoming deeper and deeper every day.

In 1977 our party and state's position and international role were further heightened. This was particularly and clearly manifested in the successful visits made to many countries by our party and state leaders and in the growing solidarity and mutual cooperation and assistance between our country and fraternal socialist countries. The establishment of the special Vietnamese-Lao relationship will forever remain an extremely bright fixture of the lasting militant friendship between the peoples of the two countries and of their unswerving, ardent and pure revolutionary sentiments.

Our country's relations with developing and nonalined countries were ceaselessly and fully developed. Economic relations were also initiated between our country and many other countries. Our membership in the United Nations further broadened our country's international posutre, created more favorable conditions for our people and made a positive contribution to the common struggle of the democratic and revolutionary forces in the world for peace, freedom, justice, independence, national sovereignty and socialism.

Looking at the past year, Vietnam has enjoyed the attention of world public opinion. As our brothers and friends have said, Vietnam's image remained bright in the heart of progressive mankind. Our people's good will for peace and friendship and our correct policy toward international problems received the world's broad sympathy and approval. This constitutes a great source of strength for us. It encourages us to continue to advance along our correct and just path.

NHAN DAN DISCUSSES WORK OF ARMY REAR SERVICE BRANCH

BK011051Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Dec 77 BK

[NHAN DAN 27 December editorial: "The Work of the Army Rear Service Branch"]

[Text] The army rear service branch is charged with providing supplies for the people's armed forces to carry out the two tasks of training to remain combat ready to defend the fatherland and building the economy. Fully aware of the situation in which the country has just emerged from a protracted and fierce war and in which it is still faced with many difficulties in advancing from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production, the rear service forces have upheld the tradition of diligence, thrift and self-reliance in order to satisfactorily resolve many problems concerning the organization of supply activities, firmly care for the health of troops, step up production, practice thrift, conduct scientific and technical research and make their branch firm and strong with a view to meeting the demands of the army in the new stage.

Training in combat readiness and large-scale production calls for an increase in the amount of rear service work as well as a change in rear service plans to meet the situation, which is full of difficulties and, at times, very pressing.

The rear service forces have always stayed close to the various units, meeting their demands for food, clothing, accommodation, health, fuel, transportation, materials and financial funds; and supplying grain, foodstuffs, military uniforms and medicines to combatants.

Rear service facilities, which consist of factories, worksites, hospitals, fuel stations and transport groups serve the armed forces while reclaiming wasteland, producing grain and food, consumer goods and construction materials, maintaining the flow of gas and oil, transporting goods for the state and building public utility projects. The various army corps and military services have realistically stepped up production and have contributed to maintaining the living standards of troops, overcoming difficulties and creating progress in awareness, ideology and organization for greater development in the coming years.

The movement for thrift has been increasingly expanded in productive labor and training as well as in consumption. Almost all factories of the branch such as the tailoring, medicine, military gear and vehicle and machinery repair factories have overfulfilled the 1977 plan.

The management of material and technical facilities, property and equipment is one of the basic tasks of rear service work. All activities in this regard--from storing supplies, reorganizing warehouses and retrieving and making full use of materials left after the war to the establishment of maintenance and repair systems, criteria for usage and systems for inventory, liquidation and warehouse situation reports--must be geared to the specialized, professional and technical functions of each branch to minimize delay, deterioration, damage and waste of supplies.

Sharing the spirit of concentrated emulation of the industrial and agricultural sectors and the various organs throughout the country and in response to the "determined to win" emulation movement of the entire army, progressive collective models, new productivity records, criteria and norms and examples of wholehearted service to the armed forces have emerged in an ever greater number from the rear service branch, thus creating a strong and firm stance for advance in the coming period.

In implementing the resolution of the fourth party congress and the resolutions of the party Central Committee's second and third plenums, of the National Assembly and of the Central Military Party Committee, in 1978 our army will continue to strongly deploy its forces to carry out its two big tasks. The orientations for rear service work next year consist of making greatest efforts in all respects at all levels, developing the whole branch's right to collective mastery and bringing into play all the creative capabilities of the masses to overcome difficulties and satisfactorily insure the armed forces' successful implementation of the two political tasks; strongly advancing the movement for labor productivity to a higher level to achieve better economic results; and practicing careful management and strict thrift to stabilize, maintain and improve the material living conditions of troops.

In order to best serve the people's armed forces, the rear service branch must not fail to improve and consolidate its organization to meet the new tasks and the requirements for building a modern regular army. All echelons, especially leading cadres, must develop basic favorable conditions, make use of experience drawn from past activities and actively carry out immediate tasks while giving attention to long-term capital construction. Along with correctly determining the position, functions and authority of each rear service organization, it is important to establish standardized regulations, systems, criteria and rules for armywide application.

For the cause of national defense and construction, all rear service cadres and combatants must respect revolutionary virtues--diligence, thrift, honesty, justice and impartiality--uphold the sense of organization and discipline, improve planning

and management, study all aspects of army rear service work and improve the quality of their work. Fully understanding the concept of self-reliance and stepping up the "determined to win" movement, the entire rear service branch-with an eye to the activities of the various units and wholeheartedly serving the combatants-will score many new achievements worthy of its glorious traditions.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN CALLS FOR GREAT EFFORTS IN NEW YEAR

BK301619Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0900 GMT 29 Dec 77 BK

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 29 December editorial: "Make Extraordinary Efforts To Record Great Achievements Next Year"]

[Text] The third session of the Sixth National Assembly has achieved fine success after 9 days of intensive and enthusiastic work. In the light of the resolution of the fourth party congress and the resolutions of the party Central Committee's second and third plenums, the National Assembly discussed and unanimously endorsed the Council of Ministers' report on the basic tasks of the 1976-1980 5-year state plan and the specific tasks of the 1978 state plan, ratified the final statement of the 1976 state budget, and approved the draft of the 1978 state budget. The National Assembly also discussed and unanimously approved the reports by the People's Supreme Court and the People's Supreme Procuratorate.

Assessing the great achievements recorded in economic construction and development at a time when the country is faced with untold difficulties arising from the serious aftermaths of war and neocolonialism and from serious natural calamities and other difficulties, the National Assembly warmly praised the great efforts of compatriots of various nationalities throughout the country, of the working class and collective peasantry and of other and a of the laboring people, of the combatants of the people's armed forces, of sci fic and technical cadres, managerial cadres and the brothers and sisters engaging an cultural and art work, and so forth to develop the right to collective mastery, to uphold the spirit of self-reliance and boldness in thought and action, to devote their energy and creative talents to overcoming all difficulties facing production and life, and to strive to implement the state plan with good results.

The National Assembly highly evaluated the new factors which are developing and the new models which have just emerged from various sectors, echelons and localities and in all fields of activity. The National Assembly also praised our overseas compatriots for their positive actions and contributions to national construction.

Assuming full responsibility before the people as the highest organ of state authority and in the spirit of strict self-criticism and criticism, the National Assembly pointed out and criticized shortcomings in the organization of economic and social management; and advanced many suggestions to the council of ministers to develop advantages, correct shortcomings and overcome difficulties and obstacles in order to successfully and comprehensively overfulfill the 1978 state plan.

The National Assembly unanimously passed the 1978 state plan complete with very pressing and heavy economic tasks, which is of special importance to the overall fulfillment of the 1976-1980 5-year state plan. The achievements of the struggle in 1978 will have a strong impact on the development of the national economy in the remaining year of the second 5-year plan.

All our people and armed forces must make extraordinary efforts and concentrate their energy to a high degree. Each person, each sector, each echelon and each locality must undergo a vigorous change in ideology and organization to meet the requirements for economic development and national construction in the new stage. In 1978 our people throughout the country must strenuously develop to the highest extent all the existing capabilities and latent potentials at home -- the labor force, the land and the rich natural resources of the fatherland -- along with making full use of the existing material and technical bases, to fulfill the planned tasks and economic norms -- stepping up agricultural production; concentrating the forces of the whole country on resolving the problem of grain and food; fulfilling at all costs the plan to produce from 16 to 16.5 million tons of grain; sending 460,000 laborers to open new lands and build the new economic areas; reclaiming 300,000 hectares of wasteland; planting 250,000 hectares of forests; producing 610,000 tons of meat on the hoof, 900,000 tons of sea, fresh and semibrackish-water fish, 160,000 tons of sugar, 370 million meters of textiles and silk, 80,000 tons of paper, 7 million tons of washed coal, 3.9 billion kwh of electricity, 740,000 tons of phosphate fertilizer of various types and 130,000 tons of rolled steel; building 1.55 million square meters of housing; and so forth4-thus increasing the gross social product by 19.5 to 21.5 percent, national income by 19 to 21 percent, gross agricultural output value by 30.7 percent and gross industrial output value by 19 to 21.7 percent over 1977.

The resolution of the third session of the Sixth National Assembly on the 1978 state plan reflects the people's right to mastery, the unanimity of the entire people with the lines and tasks for the new stage, and their will and desire to bring about truly vigorous changes in all sectors of the national economy in 1978.

The 1978 state plan constitutes a law of the state and a program of revolutionary action for the people of our country to carry out the resolution of the fourth party congress on the tasks of developing the economy, building the country, consolidating national defense and building a plentiful and happy life for our people.

Last year, in carrying out the tasks of standing ready to fight for national defense, developing the economy and building the country, our army made many efforts and scored initial achievements. These results, together with the experience gained, encourage cadres and combatants throughout the army to continue enhancing their fighting strength and combat readiness, forging discipline and most satisfactorily carrying out their tasks of economic construction.

In the 1978 state plan, our army has been entrusted by the state with very heavy but glorious tasks. Those forces specializing in economic construction have the duty to continue their vigorous advance on the agricultural and capital construction fronts and to step up other activities in order to continue making their contributions to building a socialist economy. The combat ready forces will devote a fixed amount of time to stepping up production and making full use of waste and fallow lands in various localities, barracks and airfields to produce grain and food.

Fully aware of their pride and responsibility, stepping up the "determined to win" emulation movement, striving to develop advantages and overcome weaknesses and difficulties, enhancing the spirit of offensive and organizational ability, satisfactorily managing material bases and technical equipment, improving ability in economic management and labor productivity, intensively practicing thrift, developing basic advantages and upholding the spirit of revolutionary offensive to overcome major difficulties on the path of advance, our armed forces and people are resolved to record great achievements in 1978.

PREMIER'S OFFICE ISSUES DIRECTIVE ON LUNAR NEW YEAR

BK021628Y Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0245 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[Text] The premier's office recently issued a directive on the celebration of the Mau Ngo Tet, the 1978 lunar new year. The directive says:

This year's lunar new year, which will come at a time when our party Central Committee and National Assembly have approved the 5-year plan and the 1978 plan, must be organized in a joyful and enthusiastic, but economical, spirit in order to motivate a labor productive movement and accelerate the implementation of the 1978 state plan and create conditions for the successful fulfillment of all plan norms set by the fourth party congress. All sectors at the central level and people's committees at all levels must coordinate with mass organizations in adopting necessary measures for adequately preparing the tet celebration for the people in accordance with the following spirit:

We must accelerate the labor productive emulation drive; insure the continuation of activities during and after the tet holidays; motivate and organize the people to completely transplant the entire planned rice area; intensively accelerate the growing of vegetables and subsidiary and industrial crops; and care for and protect domestic animals, especially cattle and water buffalo, against cold weather. We must launch a movement to plant trees during tet holidays to show gratitude to Uncle Ho.

Cadres, workers and civil servants of state organs, besides taking off during the tet holiday, must not take additional annual leave on the occasion of tet. All postal, communications and transportation organs, seaports, airports, railway stations and production establishments must work continuously. These include blast furnaces, chemical plants, power plants, waterworks, major worksites, banks, state-run trade stores, hospitals, security organs and others. They must rationally organize and assign work to insure their continuous operation during tet in support of production and other activities.

State organs of various sectors and echelons must assign personnel to be on duty during tet and, at the same time, work out plans for making adequate preparations of conditions—fuel, raw materials and other materials, electric power and so forth—to insure acceleration of production and construction tasks immediately after tet.

The directive also reminds people's committee at all levels and all sectors to motivate the people to economize on grain and food products; to scrupulously observe state regulations forbidding excessive slaughtering of hogs, water buffalo and cattle, and the illegal distilling of rice wine; to guide the people in minimizing expenses on tet and saving grain and food products for post-tet months; and to maintain order and security, protect the people's health and control the market during tet.

The communications and transportation sector must satisfactorily organize the transportation of passengers on the main roads to meet the people's travel demands. We must organize joyful activities and healthy entertainment aimed at creating a gay and pleasant atmosphere. We must avoid showy and wasteful forms of entertainment. We must resolutely and strictly forbid such social vices as gambling, fortunetelling, exorcism and sumptuous festive parties and oppose debauched cultural activities, especially in the southern provinces and cities.

LATE REPORT: PHAM VAN DONG INTERVIEW ON SRV-CAMBODIAN ISSUE

OWO41510Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1455 GMT 4 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Today, 4 January 1978, Premier Pham Van Dong granted an interview to VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY on the question of settling the Vietnamese-Cambodian border problem. The following is the text of the questions and answers:

[Question] Our Vietnamese people have always maintained friendship with the Cambodian people. However, the statements made by the Cambodian Government on 31 December 1977 and 3 January 1978 allege that SRV troops have invaded Cambodia, killed Cambodian people and stolen their property. Please tell us what is the truth.

[Answer] The statements of the Government of Democratic Cambodia have grossly slandered the SRV and rejected our proposal to promptly hold negotiations to settle the border problem between the two countries.

The Cambodian authorities' incitement of national hatred and encroachment on Vietnam's territory has been going on for some time now. We are greatly pained by this situation. Immediately after Cambodia achieved victory on 17 April 1975, the Cambodian authorities treated our overseas Vietnamese most cruelly, massacred thousands of them, seized all the property of tens of thousands of others and expelled them to Vietnam. On 4 May 1975, Cambodian armed forces attacked Phu Quoc Island. On 8 May 1975, they encroached on Vietnamese territory at many areas, from Ha Tien to Tay Ninh. On 18 May 1975, they seized Tho Chu Island.

Since then and over the past more than 2 years, Cambodia has repeatedly and systematically carried out encroachments on Vietnamese sovereignty and territory on an ever larger scale along the entire border where the peoples of the two countries have for a long time lived in friendship with each other. It has attacked populous areas, towns, cities, new economic zones, schools, hospitals, temples and churches. Since early May 1975, it has committed thousands of encroachments on Vietnamese territory, killed or wounded thousands of civilians, captured hundreds of others, burned thousands of houses and plundered a huge amount of property of our people in these regions. These are extremely barbarous crimes and represent a most cruel situation.

Since April 1977, the Cambodian side has severed relations between the two sides! liaison committees for settling border frictions, and on several occasions rejected our proposal for negotiations to settle the border problem between the two countries. Also since then, it has stepped up its encroachments on our sovereignty and territory on an ever larger scale.

Respecting the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship between the peoples of the two countries, we have been most patient. Our people and armed forces in the border area have exercised self-control. However, the more we display patience and self-control, the more Cambodia thinks we are weak and the more it keeps on with its activities. In the face of this serious situation, our regional armed forces were forced to defend themselves, resolved to safeguard our sovereignty and territory and our people's lives, property and peaceful labor.

[Question] What are the prospects for settling the border issue between Vietnam and Cambodia?

[Answer] Vietnam and Cambodia are two fraternal neighboring countries that united in the struggle against their common enemies and have together won very glorious victories in the national liberation cause. To the Vietnamese people, Cambodia's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity are a very significant factor with regard to safeguarding Vietnam's independence. For this reason, the Vietnamese people, the VCP and the SRV Government, in the past as at present, have striven to maintain the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship with the Cambodian people and oppose the divisive plots of the imperialists and reactionaries in the world.

The Cambodian authorities' policy of causing national hatred and encroaching on Vietnamese territory runs counter to the national interests of the Cambodian people, undermines the fraternal friendship between the peoples of the two countries and is against the interest of peace in this area. This dangerous policy is welcomed and encouraged by the ambitious imperialists and world reactionaries in Southeast Asia. This policy worries the friends of Vietnam and Cambodia.

The need for both countries to negotiate on the border issue is now urgent. With determination to safeguard the great friendship between the two nations and with good will for building, together, a border of lasting friendship advantageous to the protection of independence and the building of peace in each country, we are ready to immediately sit down at the negotiating table with Cambodia at any level in order to settle, together with Cambodia, the border issue between the two countries.

If the Cambodian side continues causing national hatred, encroaching on Vietnam's sovereignty and territory and perpetrating crimes against the Vietnamese people and if it categorically refuses to hold negotiations, it must be held fully responsible. The more our Vietnamese people respect their own independence and freedom, the more they will treasure Cambodia's independence and freedom. We are well aware that because they have shed much blood to regain their independence, the Cambodian people treasure their independence and will surely protect the solidarity between the two fraternal nations, with determination not to allow any imperialists and reactionaries to divide and sabotage it.

We appeal to the fraternal countries and friends of the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples to positively contribute to consolidating the solidarity between Vietnam and Cambodia and to refrain from doing anything that may harm the traditional friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTEDLY SUPPORTS SRV ON BORDER ISSUE

OWO41549Y Hanoi VNA English 1539 GMT 4 Jan 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA January 4--"The Cuban party and Government always unite with the Vietnamese party and Government, and resolutely support their correct stand on the settlement of the Vietnam-Cambodia border issue," stated Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and foreign minister, in Havana yesterday.

He was speaking to Vietnamese Ambassador Ha Van Lau who presented him with a copy of the December 31, 1977 statement of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the Vietnam-Cambodia border issue. FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON SRY-CAMBODIA CONFLICT

BK031417Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 3 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Indonesia hopes that all conflicts between nations can be solved in the best possible manner. This was stated by Director of Foreign Information of the Foreign Affairs Department Abdurachman Gunadirdja who answered questions posed by newsmen on Indonesia's position on the latest developments in Vietnamese-Cambodian relations, developments which have resulted in suspension of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Cambodia has accused Vietnam of launching an armed attack against its territory.

TRIAL AIRS SMUGGLING RUMORS AGAINST MRS SUHARTO

BK030758Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0729 GMT 3 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 3 (AFP)--The Indonesian president's wife, Mrs Tien Suharto, was reported today to have been involved in a multimillion dollar smuggling case in 1976. A witness heard Monday at the trial of Sawito, accused of attempting to topple President Suharto through unconstitutional means, told the court that the alleged corruption and smuggling case was discussed along with various other malpractices during a meeting he attended in July 1976.

The witness, Mr Mangunradji, 53, a Roman Catholic, said that this meeting took place in Jakarta at the house of former Chief of Police General Hugeng Imam Santoso and was also attended by Sawito and Catholic Cardinal Darmojuwong, the Jakarta daily INDONESIAN TIMES reported today. During the 3-hour meeting General Hugeng (?told the) cardinal that as the chief of police he had reported Mrs Suharto's involvement to the attorney general and then to President Suharto, but the alleged smuggling went on regardless, according to the witness, the [words indistinct].

The witness told the court that General Hugeng retired from office soon after he uncovered the smuggling racket which allegedly involved billions of rupiahs (one billion rupiahs is about U.S. \$2.5 million). He added that General Hugeng before his retirement told the press that several anonymous telephone callers had warned him, the deputy chief of police and another officer at the metropolitan police headquarters not proceed with the anti-smuggling operation. The callers said that if Hugeng and his colleagues loved their families, the operations should cease, the witness disclosed, according to the INDONESIAN TIMES.

The witness said that Mrs Suharto should have been brought to trial because of her involvement in smuggling. The witness told the court that during the meeting at General Hugeng's residence, corruption and the building by the Suharto family of a graveyard near Solo (Central Java) at a cost of 5 billion rupiahs were also discussed, the INDONESIAN TIMES reported.

He said that the cardinal's visit to General Hugeng was to discuss how far Present Suharto had been involved in the alleged improprieties during his presidency. Earlier the cardinal had been told of the allegations during several meetings in West Java which were attended by former Vice-President Mohammad Hatta, former Ambassador to the Scandinavian countries Soedjono, Major General Ishak Djuarsa and Sawito, the INDONESIAN TIMES reported.

Another Jakarta daily, MERDEKA, reported that the witness said that an accomplice of Mrs Suharto, a Chinese considered as an "economic adventurer," had been captured by General Hugeng, and according to the daily PELITA the witness said that General Hugeng had told the meeting in his house that he was obliged to stop investigations about this accomplice's activities because of his "high level relations."

Other Jakarta dailes reported today that the witness said that Mrs Suharto owned 60,000 hectares of land in West Java including in Bogor.

MALIK MEETS SUHARTO; COMMENTS ON STUDENTS

BK301443Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 30 Dec 77 BK

[Text] Answering questions from newsmen on recent student activities, Parliamentary Speaker Adam Malik said that it is not bad, and under democracy their voices must be heard. But he reminded them that they should voice their sentiments through parliament and not on the streets.

He made these comments after a meeting with President Suharto at the Binagraha building in Jakarta this afternoon. Commenting on the wide support given by various organizations to the armed forces' statement of 15 December, he said that this showed that a dynamism exists within a society striving to attain its objective.

OFFICIAL ON ARMED FORCES STATEMENT'S INTENT

BK311151Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[Text] The vice chairman of the Supreme Advisory Council, Alamsjah, has said that the armed forces statement of 15 December 1977 was not directed at any particular group and was not intended to intimidate the people. He said that the armed forces issued the statement out of its sense of responsibility as a (?development) and a sociopolitical force in the country.

Speaking yesterday at a social gathering organized by alumni of the Indonesian college students association of metropolitan Jakarta, Alamsjah denied allegations that development efforts stress only prosperity with little attention to justice. Alamsjah said that the development projects financed by presidential subsidies, the launching of the peddlers loan scheme and the small investment credit scheme should be viewed as part of the overall development plan (?to attain justice and prosperity).

INDONESIA, SULTANATE OF OMAN ESTABLISH RELATIONS

BK030934Y Jakarta ANTARA in English 0720 GMT 2 Jan 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 2 (ANTARA) -- The Foreign Ministry announced on Sunday that the Governments of Indonesia and the Sultanate of Oman have agreed to establish diplomatic ties at ambassadorial level. The Indonesian representation for the sultanate will be held by the Indonesian ambassador to Iran, while Oman envoy here will be held by its ambassador to New Delhi, India.

BRIEFS

COFFEE EXPORT -- An Indonesian Japanese joint enterprise, which was established in Ujungpandang in October 1977, is ready to make its first shipment of more than 10 tons of dried coffee beans, arabica quality, to Japan. Another 20 tons will be ready for shipment at the beginning of 1978. The coffee is produced by smallholders in South Sulawesi. [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 25 Dec 77 BK]

MALAYSIA

RITHAUDDEEN, NGUYEN DUY TRINH HOLD TALKS 3 JAN

BKO 31423Y Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 3 Jan 78 BK

[Text] The winister of foreign affairs, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen bin Ismail, has expressed the tope that Malaysia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam will be able to enter into a trade agreement. Talks on the matter open in Kuala Lumpur tomorrow. Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen was speaking to newsmen after meeting his Vietnamese counterpart, Mr Nguyen Duy Trinh, in the federal capital.

During their discussions both ministers exchanged views concerning ASEAN as well as bilateral interests. Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said Malaysia attached great importance to the visit of Mr Nguyen Duy Trinh, and it was part and parcel of the regular contacts between ASEAN and Vietnamese leaders.

Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen briefed the Vietnamese leader on the recent summit meeting of ASEAN heads of government. The two ministers also discussed ways to improve bilateral cooperation, particularly in the economic, shipping and air transportation fields. Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen extended an invitation from Datuk Hussein bin Onn to the Vietnamese prime minister, Mr Pham Van Dong, to visit Malaysia. Vietnamese Rubber Research Institute [RRI] officials were also invited to visit Malaysia for an exchange of ideas with their counterparts from Malaysian RRI.

RADIO REPORTS VO DONG GIANG'S JAKARTA PRESS CONFERENCE

BK011114Y Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0630 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[Text] Vietnam said today it would not support communist guerrillas operating in Malaysia and Thailand. The deputy foreign minister, Vo Dong Giang, told a press conference in Jakarta that insurgencies in the two countries were their own internal affairs.

On relations with Thailand, Mr Giang said there had been some problems, but now Thailand has made known its desire to normalize relations.

On the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, he said any efforts to set up regional cooperation with ASEAN should be on a new basis and in a new form, in accordance with the current situation. He declined to elaborate.

PRIME MINISTER'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE REPORTED

BKO11040Y Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 31 Dec 77 BK

[Text] Datuk Hussein bin Onn said that the more effective supervision system being introduced next year will enable the government to monitor much more closely the implementation of development projects throughout the country. The system will also help the government to quickly identify problems that may arise at the implentation stage, enabling it to immediately take the necessary remedial measures which will be more effective. The prime minister said this in his New Year message over Radio-TV Malaysia tonight.

Datuk Hussein was confident the coming year will bring more meaningful benefits to the people and the nation. He said the government was determined to further improve its performance and capability to insure the successful achievement of its objectives in the Third Malaysia Plan and the new economic policy. Steps already taken included measures to increase and improve the efficiency of government machinery, the modernization of systems and procedures, and the updating of the supervision system to insure success and progress as well as to keep up with the increasing demand for better services.

Datuk Hussein bin Onn wanted government officers to fully demonstrate their spirit of loyalty, dedication and sincerity in carrying out their duties. He urged members of the security forces to carry out their duties to safeguard national peace and security in a sincere and responsible manner. He warned all government officers against getting involved in corrupt practices, abuse of power, deviation or breach of trust placed in them regarding either money or property.

He stressed that as in the campaign to eradicate drug abuses, the cooperation of the people was also needed in the fight against corruption.

MALAYAN COMMUNIST PARTY NEW YEAR MESSAGE

OW020434Y Voice of the Malayan Revolution [Clandestine] in Mandarin to Malaysia and Singapore 1715 GMT 31 Dec 77 OW

[Malayan Communist Party Central Committee's 1978 New Year's message]

[Text] Filled with the joy of victory, we usher in the year 1978. With the coming of the new year, the party Central Committee and Comrade Chin Peng extend warm greetings and high esteem to all party members, all commanders and fighters of the Malayan National Liberation Army, all members of various revolutionary mass organizations, the dauntless revolutionary comrades and patraots who are now in enemy prisons and revolutionary masses of various nationalities.

Tremendous victories were won last year by our country's people in their revolutionary struggle. Led by the party Central Committee headed by Comrade Chin Peng and guided by the "26 April" declaration, the armymen and people overcame various difficulties and marched forward in big strides. The revolutionary armymen and people closely united with each other, fought valiantly, smashed large-scale military attacks by the enemy, frustrated its counterrevolutionary schemes and won greater victories than those of 1976. The base and guerrilla areas were further consolidated and expanded, revolutionary armed struggle continued to grow in vast regions and the struggle of people of various nationalities to oppose the enemy's fascist tyranny and protect their vital interests increased daily.

Last year people of various countries won great victories in their revolutionary struggles. The international struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hege mony--with people of the Third World as its main force--was vigorously developed. Led by the CCP Central Committee headed by their wise leader Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, the Chinese people held high Chairman Mao's revolutionary banner, consolidated and developed the victorious fruits of smashing the gang of four and won a number of brilliant victories in socialist revolution and construction. These victories have further consolidated the bastion of world revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat in socialist China, thereby greatly encouraging the revolutionary people in various countries.

While celebrating New Year's Day 1978, let us rally more closely around the party Central Committee headed by Conrade Chin Peng, actively develop revolutionary armed struggle, vigorously promote revolutionary mass movements and strive to accomplish the fighting tasks put forward in the "26 April" declaration and win still greater victories.

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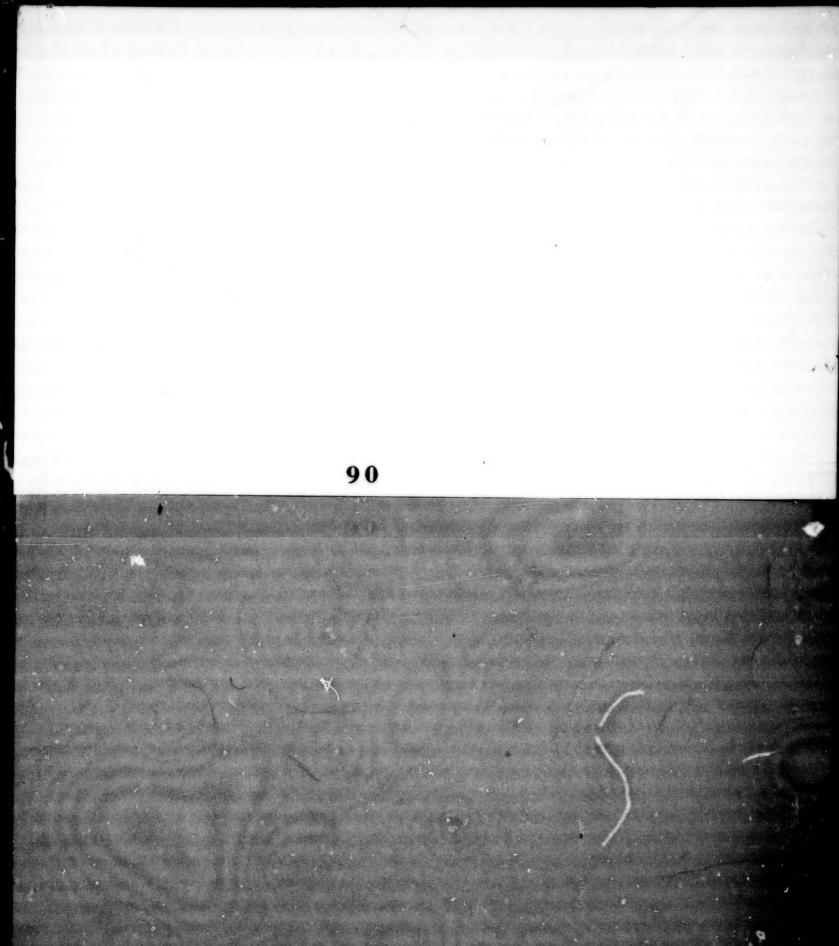
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